educator the scandill

the later and a person of the differ for plan being the differ for plan being the cough that cough the cough that cough the cought the cough

street, We to taking

the state of the same

the state of the s

arteria Neurope September

Control Ottomo

a commence with the

a trom E

in this will !

ं संस्थाति वर्ष

a mesant

and distribute

...b. r sight

to the state of th

Alleria Million Committee Ministration dispersion

(CHO (R) — The Palestinian National Authority (PNA), aring for a future expansion of self-rule in the West Bank, on by graduated 235 new recruits to its main internal security at a ceremony in the enclave of Jericho. The new members of how at a ceremony in the enclave of Jericho. The new members of the preventive security body were recruited from throughout the war. Bank, incinding areas still under Israeli occupation. Israeli nicos withdrew from the Jericho area last May. Wearing military of the property of the municipal playground in Jericho. Speaking on behalf of PNA member, stressed the great for Israeli redeployment outside Palestinian cities and towns in the West Bank ahead of general elections which he said should form the basis for self-rule. An instructor told Reuters the trainees went all former Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) activists with had fought Israeli soldiers during the eight-year-old uprising against Israeli rule.



Iragi cooperatives dissolved

CAIRO (AP) — Iraqi Saddam Hussein's government has fired the management of the country's main food-selling cooperatives for failing to provide needed commodities to the public, a newspaper reported Priday. The London-based Asharq Al Awsat newspaper also said cooperatives director Saad Allah Attiya was ordered arrested for "halture to implement orders to provide basic goods." Earlier this week President Saddam sacked his minister of agriculture, Karim Hassan Ridha, for mismanagement after a bad harvest. The paper did not say when Mr. Attiya, who is a senior member of the ruling Baath Party, was arrested or give the specific charges against him. The cooperatives traditionally have been managed by Baath Party officials. The cooperatives were the mainpoints of distribution of government-subsided goods, especially food that was rationed after the U.N. imposed oil and economic embargoes after Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait. It was unclear if the government planned to appoint Iraq's new management. The demise of the cooperatives would leave people dependent on private shops or government-licensed groceries, CAIRO (AP) - Iraqi Saddam Hussein's government has fired the dependent on private shops or government-licensed groceries, which also handle subsidiated goods.

Volume 19 Number 5806

AMMAN SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1994, RAJAB 28,1415

Price: Jordan 150 Fils

Aigerian group declares war

PARIS (AFP) — An Algerian armed fundamentalist group on Friday declared open war on France, warning of action "in coming days," in the wake of the bloody end to last weekend's Air France Airbus hijack. The Islamic Salvation Army (AIS) said that "war against France has become a legal duty" under Islamic Sharia law, because the French government had been shown to be in "collaboration" with the Algiers regime. "The Algerian nation is today directly in conflict with France and all those who support it, including the Jews and Christians of the world," it said in the latest edition of its newsletter, Al Feth Al Moubine (crushing victory). "The AIS groups are capable of hitting France on its own territory and the coming days will show, with God's help, their capacity to strike the unbeliever in his own home," it said. The AIS said the Airbus hijack, which ended Monday when French shock troops stormed the airliner and killed the four fundamentalist hostage-takers, "offers clear evidence of collaboration" between France

and Algeria. (see page 12) **CSCE turns OSCE**

VIENNA (AFP) — The Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) on Sunday becomes the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe. The name change — 20 years after the creation of the CSCE in Helsinki when the cold war was at its height in 1975 — was decided during the conference summit in Budapest in early December. The symbolic change will mark what the summit agreed was a wish to "express their determination to give a new political impetus" to the organisation. "to enable it to v a major role in the challenges of the 21st century." Based in Vienna, the 53-state organisation comprises NATO countries, former Warsaw Pact countries -Central and Eastern Europe, Russia and several former Soviet Republics — and neutral and non-aligned states. The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) has been suspended from membership since 1992.

Hall says that 'copter was shot down

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Newly freed U.S. airman Bobby Hall believes that his helicopter was shot over North Korea, a high-ranking Pentagon official said Friday. "The helicopter was apparently shot down," the official said, adding that Mr. Hall was questioned on the incident as he was being flown back to his Florida home Friday. The chief warrant officer was released early Friday at the border between North and South Korea after 13 days detention in Pyongyang (see inside). The North Koreans said they shot down the helicopter as it was involved in a spying mission. The United States said it strayed over the demilitarised zone due to a naviga-tional error. "Mr. Hall did not know where he was," the Pentagon official said. He said that Mr. Hall described the helicopter as bursting into flames and that although he had no hard proof that gunfire was the cause, he saw no other possibility.

policeman wounded in southern Egypt

MINYA, Egypt (AFP) — Two militants shot and wounded a policeman in the head Friday as police tried to arrest them in a sugar cane field where they were hiding in the Minya region of southern Egypt, police said. The two fled after opening fire on police in the village of Nowai, near Mallawi, 300 kilometres (180 miles) south of Cairo. Police were carrying out a search after suspected mili-tants killed four policemen in separate attacks in the Mallawi region Thursday.

Israeli troops clash with settlement protesters

AL KHADER, occupied West Bank (Agencies) — Israeli troops clashed with hundreds of Palestinian and Jewish peace activists protesting on Friday at a new West Bank Jewish settlement site, which has threatened Israel-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) talks, witnesses said.

Ahmad Tibi, an adviser to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, said Israeli troops beat him with the butts of their guns.

"We have been attacked by rifles, by pushing, we have been hit, women and children, by the Israeli soldiers," Dr. Tibi said.

"I am shocked by the brutal behaviour of the Israeli soldiers, especially some of the police officers."

The clashes deepened a quandary for Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, keen to keep sluggish self-rule talks from derailing. Mr. Arafat's Palestinian Authority has said the renewed settlement activity could undermine the peace deal Israel and the PLO signed in September 1993.

In Friday's protests seven people were wounded when 2.000 demonstrators clashed with the Israeli army. Five demonstrators were

slightly wounded in scuffles

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Syria on Friday hailed the

Syrian official newspapers

voiced satisfaction with the

Alexandria summit which en-

ded Thursday, saying it had "rekindled hopes of over-

coming the Arabs' worsened

The government daily

Tishrin said the summit "rose

to the challenge of remedying

the Arab imbalance, for the

battle for peace is fiercer than

of the ruling Baath Party, said the summit had "put the

seal on joint Arab action and

coordination, which could re-

place Israel's misleading

And the daily Al Thawra

praised the two-day meeting

ing point in joint Arab action." as "extraordinary and a turn-

A statement after the

meeting between Syrian Pres-

ident Hafez Al Ássad, his

Egyptian counterpart Hosni

Mubarak and Saudi Arabia's

King Fahd backed Syria's de-

mands in peace negotiations

and called for a total Israeli

withdrawal from all occupied

Al Baath, the mouthpiece

peace process.

situation."

proposals."

when they tried to break into the construction site at Ephrata where giant bulldozers have been working day and night to flatten stony ground ahead of the construction of 500 new settler

Army officials said two soldiers had been wounded and a curfew clamped on the nearby Palestinian village of El Khader, five kilometres south of Bethlehem.

The fighting erupted after Friday prayers when dozens of left-wing Israelis joined hundreds of Palestinians who had gathered at the settlement despite a military ban on any demonstrations.

The Israeli supreme court was due to rule Friday on an appeal against the ban. lodged by the Israeli "Peace Now" movement.

Military officials said ban was imposed to pre-settlers clashing with Palestinian and Israeli profesters, as well as to stop any attacks by the hardline Islamic Resistance Movement, The supreme court on

Thursday rejected a Palestinian plea to suspend the construction work at Ephrata. Last year the settlement, which has 5,000 inhabitants, was given permission to build the new neighbourhood on 40

AMMAN (J.T)

mit between Egyptian President Hosai Mübarak, Syriza President Egyptian Al Assad and King Fahlen Abdul Aziz of Suedi Arabia as a turning point in the Arab, regional and interfational areass. Dr. Abdul Meguid said the

summit would have a positive

impact on the Arab nation,

noting that it sought port the efforts made

lish a just, comprehe

durable peace in the

Syrian Foreign Mi Farouq Al Sharan said

departure statement at

Arab lands. 🏂

hitch.

supported Syria's position wards negotiations with

Israel dismissed the Arab mini-summit as a minor

the summit would not ob-struct the peace process. A senior official here said

it was in Israel's interests that

Syria's position was streng-

thened in the peace talks.

Israeli officials here said

mate Arab rights.

results of an Arab minisummit after winning the backing of Egypt and Saudi
Arabia for its stand in the mit between Egyptian Presi-

Palestinians say they hold the deeds to the land proving ownership before the creation of the Jewish state in 1948, and maintain the development is an entirely new settlement and not just an

extension of Ephrata.

Prime Minister Rabin has instructed the government's legal advisor Michael Ben Yair to present a report on the legality of the operation at the next cabinet meeting

on Monday. And the government is due to discuss a suspension of the work on Monday. Mr. Arafat has urged Israel

to halt such settler activities amid Palestinian warnings that the expansion work ck negotiations on could a tule on the exten

wish settlers zers to desused two troy the foundations of a petrol station being built by a Palestinian businessman near the Mehola settlement in the West Bank, military officials said (see page 12).

Demonstrators at the settlement site also threw stones at border police troops, knocking one unconscious and cutting another in the forehead.

(Continued on page 12)

The worst thing for us

would be to see Syria isolated in the Arab World," he said,

asking not to be named.

"all of the Golan plateau

drawn up in 1949 and "all occupied Palestinia

lands including Arab, Jeru-

Israeli Foreign Minister

Shimon Peres on Thursday acknowledged the summit could slow Israel Forts to forge links

summer spart of building a new didle East," the

told military radio.

He added that it was "the

peace process and not Israel

Israeli Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin de-

scribed the Alexandria meet-

statement had not demanded

(Continued on page 12)

contacts with Israel.

clė ir

Arab

obsta-

hitch.

ne this

far as the marmistice

The three leaders deman-

ded that Israel withdraw from.

wounded Israeli paratrooper is given first aid after he passed out during scuffles with demonstrators in the Arab village

Russians bog down around

KARPINSKI HILL (Agencies) — Russian forces kept up artillery and air strikes around Grozny Friday, but the failure of Moscow's ground troops to dislodge Chechen fighters from this strategic hill highlights the danger of the war against Chechenya's independence bogging down.

Heavy machinegun fire, tank and artillery shelling clattered around Karpinski Hill, west of the Chechen capital Grozny and Russian warplanes could be seen in the southeast; circum flight in the sky for bombing runs on Chechen defenders in the Khankala suburbs.

Early Friday Chechens said Russian bombers hit a major oil refinery near here for the second time in two days, sending up a thick pall of smoke which could deprive Grozny residents of their main source of fresh water, namely snow. Russia denied that its forces bombed the refinery.

The people collect the snow and boil it to use for water but the explosion Friday has deposited a film of oil on the snow making it unfit for consumption.

The Chechen interior ministry appealed to Russia early Friday to cease the air raids which it said could provoke "an ecological disaster" in the Caucasus, Interfax news agency said.
The Chechen presidency.

cited by Interfax, said nearly 5.000 tonnes of ammonia were stored near the refinery. "At any moment, the blaze may spread and cause a major ecological disaster over ing as a "pathetic" effort to halt the tide of change in the the entire Caucasus." a ministry spokesman said.

region.
The Israeli press stressed
Friday that the summit's final A Moscow radio station said on Friday that Chechen leader Dzhokhar Dudayev had appealed to President Boris Yeltsin for a new year that Gulf Arab states freeze cease-fire, but the Russian government said it knew no-thing about it.

Despite the destruction wreaked on Grozny by repeated air raids, almost three weeks since being ordered to restore Moscow's rule in the Muslim separatist republic, which declared independence in 1991, the Russian forces appear to be in a strategic

Less than 50 Chechens at any one time are able to hold the summit of Karpinski Hill, which has a commanding view of Grozny, despite having only three artillery pieces. an armoured car carrying an armoured car carrying an armoured he arms.

From their soaring vantage point, Chechen soldiers pointed out what they said were 300 Russian armoured vehicles and helicopters. three kilometres away.

Chechens said the Russians were unwilling to make a frontal assault on the steep hill and that even daylong air bombing and helicopter rocket attacks were not enough to take the position. The snow-covered summit

is pocked with black shell and rocket craters and artillery commander Heizar Hotchkuya admitted that Thursday's incessant bombing was a "nightmare." "Boom, boom, boom

everywhere, fire everywhere," he said. But because there are so few Chechens, the chances of a direct hit are slim and only

one man was injured the whole day, Mr. Heizar said. When we hear the planes we just dive into the snow, or trenches," said one soldier.

A Russian artillery shell suddenly whistled over the

ridge, sending every soldier plunging into the thick snow. before exploding harmlessly in the woods. The Chechen position was

spartan, but well organised. Each of the three visible guns was well dug in, the armoured car was painted white and hidden in the trees and even troops who had just spent three "hot" nights said they were far better motivated than their enemy.

"Their planes can't hit our big guns because they are scared of everything. We're not, we're fighting for our land. They just strike and run," said Visayit Ilhayev, one of the Chechen comman-

During ground attacks the Russians "first send up the conscripts and then the Spetsnaz (commandoes)," said Shakhman Abkhalyetov, a 33-vear-old former history teacher, who carried a grenade in his breast pocket. The airpower is used to protect the Spetsnaz, so they often hit their own men."

President Yeltsin sent hisbest wishes to thousands of Russian troops facing a miserable new year in Chechenya, ITAR-TASS news agency said.

"I send you my special New Year greetings, as I know how important it is to know that you are remembered... when you are far away from home, carrying

(Continued on page 7)



Chechens queue for water in a neighbourhood of Grozny. Water supplies of the capital of the break-away republic of Chechenya were cut as a result of the heavy bombardment by Russian airplanes on the city during the last week (AFP

Arab Bank, Shahin Group announce compromise deal According to the sources

By P.V. Vivekanand Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Arab. Bank and the Shahin groupof companies, one of the biggest in Jordan, have announced that they have reached an out-of-court settlement to a controversial multi-million dinar dis-

Announcing the "brotherly and cordial" settlement to the press on Thursday, Arab Bank Chairman Abdul Majeed Shoman and Shahin group head Mohammad Shahin did not provide details of the deal, which, according to sources, involved around JD 35 million in credit facilities that the Arab Bank extended to the Shahin

"We have reached a final. and complete settlement of the dispute and the entire episode is behind us," said Mr. Shoman, adding that the West the bank had withdrawn point, it

four cases it ind filed against the Shahin group.

Mr. Shoman and Mr. Shahin, who was sitting nest to the Asia Bank changes at a light press conference, traderlined that the Arab Bank's links with the group.

that the Arab Bank's links with the group atted back to more than Abyears and there was no case of confidence between them.

He recalled in instance when the Arab Bank honoured a cheque written by Mr. Shahin at the paper cover of a cament bag in payment of real estate deal. "As for as we are concerned the payment order was as good as cheque since as issued by Mr. Shahin Mr. Shoman told reports."

Mr. Shahm Mr. Shoman told reports.

The Sham group is one of the man holding companies in bordan. Its interests cally projects in agriculture and industry inside the West Book At one Bank. At one s also reported that the group was planning to launch Jordan's first pri-vate sector air freight com-

vate sector air freight company.

Mr. Shoman, who reportedly was in direct charge of credit policies of the band vis-a-vis major institutions inside and outside Joann, said he was travelling outside the country when the dispute over the Shann group broke surface and that he did not have an emportunity to end

have an importunity to end the district before it reached court.

Mr. Soman implicitly criticised the media for what he escribed as blow-ing the insert of proposi-

what he decribed as blowing the issee out of proportion?

"Even the Arab Bank" were to be JD 10 million or JD 36 million in the affair, the loss would not have undersined the bank, which in sea an annual profit of 130 million," he said. "For would it have any repetitional arrows, and I any repetitissions on the national conomy, and I



Abdul Majeed Shoman wonder why the media opted to project it as a national crisis."

True as that may be economic analysts say, the fact that the highly con-servative Arab Bank. known for its tight and well-monitored credit policies, had allowed the affair to develop was the main factor that fuelled media

Adding fuel to the media fire was the resignation of three prominent lawyers, Ibrahim Bakr, Faris Nabulsi and Tareq Nabil, in protest against what they saw as an unprecedented softline approach by the management over the "dispute" with the group. Mr. Nabil told the Jor-

dan Times on Friday: "When there is a major difference in views between a lawyer and his client over the manner in which to bandle a particular issue, then it is better for the lawyer to step aside." Mr. Nabil declined to

elaborate and also refused to discuss the details of the affair.

According to informed sources, the dispute involved JD 28 million in overdraft facilities given to the Shahin Group and JD 6.5 million in a personal loan granted to Mr. Sha-

and reports in the local press, the dispute de-veloped after the bank's legal department, which had been headed by Mr. Bakr for many years, found that the collateral offered by the group to cover the loans was not enough under standard banking practices

The sources, who prefer-

red anonymity, said the compromise deal appeared to involve the transfer of 51 per cent of a vegetable oil plant owned by the Shahin group to Arab Bank ownership. In addition, the rest of the ownership would be mortgaged with the Arab Bank. The first step in the compromise is an assessment of the market value of

the plant, the sources said.
"This arrangement would cover the bulk of the JD 28 million loan given to the Shahin Group, leaving about two or three million dinars," said one source.

"The personal loan granted to Mr. Shahin has not matured yet, but the accord also involves provisions to cover that amount as and when the loan matures." Other sources said sever-

al other leading businessmen had come forward to guarantee the Shahin Group's dues to the bank. The dues to the Arab Bank are only part of the credit facilities that the

Shahin Group had secured from the local market. But, according to the sources, the collateral offered to other banks by the group are strong and are suff cient to cover the le amounts, reportedly volving more than JD plight es to h million.

In his comment Thursday's press c

ence, Mr. Shoman was confident the assets of the Shahi "were sufficient to three or four im to the Arab B:

Black box found after Turkish crash kills 55

The flight recorder of a Tur-kish Airlines (THY) Boeing 737 which crashed in eastern Turkey killing 55 people and injuring 21 others was found in the wreckage on Friday, an airline spokesman said.

The death toll rose when one_person died in hospital on Friday, the day after the passenger plane ploughed into a hill near the city of Van's airport in a sudden blizzard, the spokesman said.

A Transport Ministry official told Renters the pilot of the 737-400, on a domestic flight between Ankara and Van, could not see the approach to Van airport because of driving snow.

Analysis of the flight recorder, or black box, had been delayed but would probably confirm bad weather as the cause of the crash, the minis-

Civil aviation investigators from Ankara could not fly to Van on Friday morning because the airport was still closed by bad weather, the official said.

The Boeing, carrying 69 passengers and seven crew, crashed on its third attempt at landing. The pilot and four crew members died in the crash, the official said.

Television pictures showed the aircraft ripped apart and lines of bodies half-buried in deep snow.

A Van airport flight controller offered to send the plane back to Ankara or on to the nearby city of Diyarbakir but the pilot insisted on trying to land one more time. the Transport Ministry said. Prime Minister Tansu Cil-

ler issued a message of condolence and cancelled plans to hold a New Year's Eve party in the northern town of Karabuk, her office said in a statement on Friday.

office said 10 members of the security forces were among the casualties. Civilian aircraft often carry military personnel to airports in eastern Turkey where Kurdish guerrillas are active.

Soldiers and paramilitary gendarmerie troops took part in the rescue operation in more than two metres of

THY said the worst air crash in Turkey took place in 1976 in the southwestern province of Isparta where 155 people were killed. THY's worst accident was in 1974 when 345 people were killed when a McDonnell Douglas DC-10 aircraft crashed near

In August, a THY Boeing 737 skidded on landing at Istanbul airport, slid across a road and came to a halt just short of a railway line. Two crew members were slightly

The two flight recorders of the Boeing 737-400 were

found overnight. Control tower tape recordings released to the media showed Thursday that pilot Adem Ungun, who also died. argued with an air traffic controller moments before his plane crashed into a mountain as it made a third attempt to land despite extremely poor visibility.

The control tower told the pilot to return to Ankara or reroute the plane to Divarbakir in the southeast but Ungun insisted on making a third landing bid, according to the recordings. Visibility had shrunk to about 100 metres when the plane crashed.

The plane broke into three on impact. Only five people survived unharmed.

Airline officials contacted by AFP would not say if the Van regional governor's crash was due to pilot error.

Crisis could threaten investment in Algeria PARIS (AFP) — The latest nistan, Iraq and the countries

surge in tension between Algeria and France — its biggest economic partner could threaten foreign investment in Algeria, despite efforts by the French govern-

In particular investors may be more reluctant to put money in the country if it is declared a "war risk" state similar to Iraq and Afghanistan, possibly early in the new

France's global investment in the North African country, which gained its independence from France in 1962, amounted to some \$2 billion last year, ahead of both the United States and Japan.

French diplomats were insisting Wednesday that France's commitment to its former colony was unshaken. "We are not about to put the key under the door and aban-

don them," said one.
"We must help this country get out of the economic and ocial crisis... and we don't want to do it alone, but with other Eurpean countries," idded a senior French offi-

But in London the War Risks Rating Committee of London Insurers said Wednesday that it will conider reviewing Algeria's staus early in the new year. "We are looking very losely at the situation here," the committee presient, Tim Humm told AFP, dding: "We will meet to eview the rating at the be-inning of 1995."

The decision would place lgeria on a par with Afghaof the former Yugoslavia and would lead to payment of a surcharge for air and sea freight to and from Algeria to cover higher risks.

French Foreign Minister "Everybody is aware that (aid) is a duty of solidarity with the Algerian people, and that economic chaos would precipitate the com-plete destabilisation of Alger-

But analyst Remy Leveau of the French National Political Science Foundation questioned whether the international community would go on forever pouring money into Algeria, when aid so far had proved ineffective.

"When Algeria runs out of money and calls on the international community to help it, they will be asked Well what have you done?' The war in Algeria is like the one in Lebanon," he said.

France is by far the biggest single investor in Algeria. U.S. global investment amounted to about \$1 billion last year, with Japan contributing \$900 million.

Unlike the other main two, France invests in a wide range of sectors in Algeria. Washington and Tokyo prefer to back its dominant economic areas - notably oil

Other countries, including Italy, Spain, Portugal and Turkey also invest across the board, but on a much smaller scale than France. Germany, Benelux and Britain are less keen to invest in the conflictscarred country.



Turkish rescue workers make their way through falling snow as they search for survivors of the plane crash late Thursday. A Turkish airlines Boeing 737-400 carrying 76 people crashed on a domestic flight into a mountain in eastern Turkey with more than 55 people believed to have been killed when the plant come down in a snowstorm (AFP

Israeli said to use U.S. technology in China plane

LOS ANGELES (R) -Israel is helping China build an advanced combat aircraft for the Chinese air force with American technology, the Los Angeles Times has reported.

The newspaper said U.S. technology developed for a joint American-Israeli fighter that was eventually scrapped was being used for the pro-

It quoted unnamed U.S. officials as saying they had confirmed Israel's role in helping to build the aircraft and were concerned at the move, which one expert de-

scribed as "ominous". The Times said the new Chinese plane would be comparable to the American military's F-16 fighter and would be based on the "Lavi" fighter, a joint project between the United States

ADDIS ABABA (AFP) — Eritres on Friday accused the

Sudanese government, with

which it has broken off di-

plomatic ties, of harassing

Eritrean nationals and dis-

rupting a repatriation prog-

Eritreans in Sudan are vic-

tims of "searches, arbitrary

arrests without due legal pro-

cess and the confiscation of

possessions such as cars," a

top foreign ministry official reached by telephone told

Guirma Asmerom, head of

the African sector in the

ministry in Asmara, said

Sudan was intimidating Erit-

reans to incite them to leave

the country swiftly and thus

undermining a repatriation

scheme set up with the Un-

recognised last year.

Entreans have been leav-

ing Sudan in larger number

than the transit centres and

arrangements initially set up

Dr. Akram Al Momani 248795

AFP.

ited Nations.

and Israel that was scrapped seven years ago.

The Chinese plane will incorporate extensive technological innovations derived fromthat project, according to U.S. government experts on the Chinese military, the

Asked about the Times re-

port. State Department spokesman Mike McCurry said only: "Under the Arms Export Control Act countries which receive U.S. weapons technology must agree not to transfer it to other countries without specific U.S. authorisation. We have procedures in place to monitor transfers of U.S. technology. When we receive reliable reports of such transfert we take action

in accordance with the law." Defence Department offi-cials could not immediately he reached for comment Confirmation of intacl's roic could create beamon to tween Washington and the Jewish state, the Times and The joint work on the plans is the latest in a sector of military projects in which

Israel has beloed China met

the last 15 years.

The paper quoted Marvia Klemow, vice president for government affirms of largely Autorati industrici internabonal, the Washington subudury of lursel's state . wheel export firm, as denvice his company was instriction U.S. technology to China

The newspaper said israel and China had already finished work on a pr. carpe of the jet and production would probably start soon at a plane on the Sections pro-

U.S. experts, the paper said, were concerned over the negative implications the ace fighter could have for Taiming, a staunch U.S. ally and bingrime for of China.

This plane would fit in with a screens for (conflict over) Tarwan 10 years from our. And for someone to help the Chinese build a production line, a turnkey facilmy, for this aircraft is omisous," the Times quoted one U.S. government expert as

Another official and "the plane is in the prototype stage. It is a very capable aircraft. It uses entenave U.S. technology.

The official said the aircrait would be ready for flight sessing in a year and would be in full service in about a

Eritrea accuses Sudan of Egyptian court ban persecuting its nationals popular 'Al Muhajir Eritrea accuses Sudan of

Repatriations began in November under a tripartite agreement reached among the Sudanese and Entrean governments and the U.N. High Commissioner for Reahine, saying it violated fence used delaying chics in a lsiamic ban against de-Asmara severed diplomatic relations with Sudan on Dec.

6, accusing the junta in Khartoum of seeking to destabilise the Eritrean government. Eritrea had already several times accused Sudan of training hundreds of "terrorists" of fight it, a claim strongly denied by the regime in

Khartoum. President Issaias Afeworki in January said that Islamic guertillas of several nationalities had entered the country from Sudan and spoke of a "war declared against Erit-

fugees (UNHCR).

Some 600,000 Eritreans fled the Horn of Africa coun-Mr. Guirma said Friday try during its 30-year war for that the Ethiopian governindependence from Ethiopia, ment has agreed to represent which was declared in 1991 Eritrea's interests in Sudan after the ouster of military and was awaiting a response dictator Mengistu Haile to the proposal from Khar-Mariam and internationally toum.

The latest Eritrean charges against Khartoum came as Yemen's President Ali Abdullah Saleh was seeking to mediate a settlement to the for them can cope with, Mr. differences between the neighbouring countries.

CAIRO (AP) - At Epp- were jealous of his dreams court on Thursday bar- and his coat of many colours. auther spokess of a The lawyer wh r film by international the case, Mahmi aimed director Ypasel Faid, complained th Faid, complained that the de-

e Islamic ban agazhsi depicting religious prophets. Judge Ibrahim Geer based his ruling on a finding last month by Abazhar University, a leading to the of Islamic scholarship to the of Islamic scholarship to the film's depiction to the local scholarship to the film's depiction to

(MENA) said. The judge also ordered the confiscation of all copies of the film, MENA said.

(The Immigrant), played to and religious issues. It has packed houses in Cairo and been responsible for hanning The movie, "Al Muhagir" Other Egyptian cities after its opening in September. It also has been shown in France. Tunisia and Morocco.

Mr. Shahine and his lawyer. Labib Moawad. could not immediately be reached to say if they would appeal. Mr. Shahine had maintained the script was inspired by Joseph's story, but did not depict the prophet. In the Bible and in Islamic belief, Joseph was sold into

slavery by his brothers who

The have sued to ban

ed school uniforms not include a head Azhar is often consulted books, but the government

until the film had figithed its

The suit against the film

in Egypt.

yest in a series of

by Islamic fun-

s to get stricter

nt of Islamic reli-

novie billboards and

maintains its views are advis-On Wednesday, the Egyptian Organisation Human Rights condemned what it termed a "rising campaign" against secular writers and

intellectuals in Egypt. It said the campaign "by political Islam is creating an inflammatory atmosphere against them and aimed at making them targets for

NEWS IN BRIEF

Israel may act against Iran nuclear facilities

TEL AVIV (AFP) - lutari pias takrama men year to thwart fran's nuclear programme and prevent it posting a military threat, an Israeli aims general has warned here The significant advance in Itan's nuclear capabilities could lead larged to take a decrueen on this matter near year. army planning chief Un Dayan told a conference at Tel.
Acre University on Thursday. Mr. Dayan could the possibilines for speeding up the acquisition of nuclear technology and developing it into a military programmic were "greater. due to the international situation." Israel "must observe. develop counter-measures and prepare he decision samed at removing this threat," he said, without claborating "Israel is in an environment where doubts can arise about the rationality of existing regimes, while lutted is still regarded as a target." Israeli officials, alarmed at fran's military potential, have urged the West to highten controls on the export of sensitive technology to Tehran Israel has never officially acknowledged that it has nuclear weapons. but according to Western experts it has some 100 nuclear warheads which can be fitted to medium, and long-range mussiles. On June 7, 1981 Israeli warpianes destroyed Iran's Opirak nuclear reactor near Baghdad, which was built with

Saudi cleric: Opposition seeks to divide

DUBAI (R) - A senior Saudi Arabian cleric urged Mushus to ignore publications issued by a militant opposition group and said these who circulate them should be puaished. Sheikh Saleh Ben Fawzan Ben Abdullah Al Fawzan was quoted on Friday as telling Al Meslimoon weekly in Sauch Arabia that leaflers issued by the Londonbased Committee for the Defence of Legitimate Rights (CDLR) aimed at "promoting sedition, sowing discord and poisoning minds." Sheikh Saleh, a member of the Higher Council of Ulema, Saudi Arabia's foremost religious body. said those who circulate the leaflets "should receive the dozerrent punishment he deserves." He said Mushims should follow a ruling by leading Sauch clenc Sheikh Abdul Aziz Ben Baz, president of the council, who has declared that the leaflers should be ignored. The CDLR, set up in 1993 by ultra-conservative Saudis, was declared illegal by religious leaders who said Islamic laws applied in the kingdom were the best protector of human rights. The Saudi Interior Ministry said in October that of 157 people detained in connection with attempt to sow dissent and chaos, 130 were released and 27 were still under investigation. The arrests followed disturbances by supporters of detained controversial militant cleric, Sheikh Salman Al

U.S. welcomes Lebanese team to security talks

BEIRUT (AFP) - The United States has welcomed the appointment of a Lebanese delegation to talks on Security in Lebanon to be held next month in Washington U.S. Charge d'Affaires Ronald Schlisher told journalists after meeting Foreign Minister Fares Bouez here that the U.S. government "is very granfied by the appointment of the Lebanese delegation to these talks. He said the talks due to be held in January would allow the two countries to discuss "concerns that have long been... a sticking point in the relationship" between them. Lebanese Ambassador to Washington Riad Tabarra was appointed on Tuesday to head the delegation which will also include four high-ranking members of the Lebanese security forces. The talks will mainly focus on lifting a ban on U.S. nationals visiting Lebanon imposed in 1985 after a sense of kidnappings of Westerners in the country. The two countries will also discuss the fight against drugs

Moderate guake shakes eastern Turkey

ANKARA (R) — A moderate earthquake shook eastern Turkey on Friday. Anatolian news agency said. The quake measuring 4.5 on the Richter scale occurred 220 kilometres south of the city of Erzincan, monitors at Istanbul University told the news agency. There were no immediate reports of damage. The quake was felt in the provinces of Diyarbakir, Malarya and Elazig, Anatolian said. Earthquakes of more than four on the Richter scale are powerful enough to cause heavy damage in a populated area.

U.N. probes Iraq-Kuwait border shooting

KUWAIT CITY (AFP) - U.N. officials have launched an inquiry into the shooting of a U.N. military observer on the Iraqi-Kuwaiti border, but said Friday they were unable to support Kuwait's claim that Iraqi forces opened fire. Salim Fahmawi, spokesman for the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM), said the U.N. had opened an inquiry with the two sides but we cannot draw any conclusions at this stage," adding that the shooting Thursday was "an isolated incident." The Kuwaiti Defence Ministry accused Iraqi forces of firing at Yivanov Danot, a 32-year-old Romanian. The captain was hit in the thigh and wounded, the official agency KUNA said. The U.N. spokesman said the officer was patrolling the Kuwaiti side of the demilitarised zone, and the U.N. "could not determine where the shots came from because it was dark." The observers, numbering 1,150, were deployed in the aftermath of the 1991 Gulf war which evicted Iraqi troops from Kuwait after a seven month occupation. In August, a Bangladeshi soldier was shot dead and two others wounded on the Iraqi side of the demilitarised border zone. Iraq blamed smugglers for the incident.

JÖRDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773111-19

ì	PROGRAMMÉ TWO
ļ	17:00 Poliauards
.	17:30 Un Pour Tous
1	18-80 "Le Temples Du Karnak"
	18:30 Les Intrepides
	19:00 News in French
	19:15 Grands Galops
	19:30
	The Nanny: "The Christmas Story"
1	20:00 Innovations
	120-2 0 [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
	11.14 Murder She Wrote
	lvaoo News in English
1	23:20 Feature film: "One Magic
	Christmas"
	23:59
	The Christmas Miracle: "Christ-
	mas Carois
	10:30 Major Dead
	M-00
	Christmas Ceremonies from the
	Vatican
	· der
	det PRAYER TIMES
	50UL

..... (Sunrise) Duba ire C Syria ca...

lliscuss.... lyhich Is pretext topeches ionist aim. Syria Succeeds Charchets rejection 5 nand to keec

Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785. St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590. Charch of the Annunciation Tel 637440. De la Salle Church Tel. 661757 Terrassucta Church Tel: 622366 Church of the Annanciation Tel. Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 628543. 775261. St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751. Ammun International Church Tel. 652526.

Bulletin supplied by the Depart-ment of Meteorology.

dan Catholic Church Tel. an Orthodox Church Tel. elical Lutheran Church Tel: German-speaking Evangetical Congregation Tel. 684195
The Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932
Church of Nazarene Tel.675691.
The Evangetical Local Church in

WEATHER

Tel. 811295

It will be partly cloudy with rise temperatures. Winds will be westeriv moderate and seas calm. Min. Max. temp.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

ZARQA: Dr. Yahya Al Tarifi 98152) Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 10, Aqaba 19 Humidity readings: Amman 74 per cent, Aqaba 54 per cent. **EMERGENCIES** Food Control Centre 637111 Civil Defence Department 661111 Civil Defence Immediate Rescue — 630341

Givil Defence Emergency — 199

Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777

Fire Brigade — 617101

Blood Bank — 775121 USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS **NIGHT DUTY** 896390 605800 Dr. Bahjat Bader Dr. Arafat Al Ashbab Water and Sewerage Dr. Yahya Abdul Salam 736072 897467 Fires pharmacy Ferdows pharmacy ... Al Asema pharmacy Nairoukh pharmacy 787111 (directory assistance) ... 637055 Al Salam pharmacy ...
Yacoub pharmacy ... 636730 644945 . 847632

Electric Power Company 636381
RU Flight Information 06-53200
Queen Alia Intl. Airport 06-53200
HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre \$1381372 Khalidi Materunty, J. Amn 642816 Akilch Materiaty, J. Amn. 642441/2 Jabai Amman Matersity ... 642362 Melhas, J. Amrien 636140 Palestine, Simenam 6541714 Palestine, Shmeriaeri 64171/4
Shmeriani Hotoital 64171/4
Shmeriani Hotoital 64171/4
Luriversity Hospital 845845
Al-Muacher Hospital 64727/37
Al-Ahli, Abdali 641646
Raisa, Al-Muhapeee 77101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Auhmalich 77101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Auhmalich 77101/3
Army, Marka 674155
ZARQA. ZARQA.

Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)98323 Zarqa National Hospital (09)900560 Ibn Sina Hospital (09)900560 Ibn Sina Hospital (09)906737 Al Halma Modern Halpital (75)90090

······ (ユ)コンシュシュ

Gerald Catholic Hospital (02)27275 Rep Al Nation Hospital (02)247100 Princess Harja-Floupital . .. (03)314111 POR THE TRAVELLER QUEEN ALIA

MRPORT This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Ouern Alia Internacional Adport Vet (00)51200-5, where it should always be verified.

INTERNATIONAL

ARRIVALS. Royal Jordanian (RJ) (Terminal 1) 15:50 New Yorks Amsterdam (RI) 14:50 Carro (RI) 17:55 Lagon, Berlin (RI) 17:55 Franklist, Victure (RI)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

Vienna (CS)
Rome, Larnaca (AZ)
Dubai (FK) Beirut (ME 21:55 Paris, Dat 23:20 Amsterdam (KL DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

86:25 87:86 87:00 Agaba (RI) 11:15 Amsterdam, New York (RI) 11:35 Oeneva, Madrid (RJ) 11:40 Paris, Brussels (RJ) 12:00 London (KI) 28:48 Demicus (RI) 21:25 Abu Dhabi, Dubu (RI)

Other Flights (Terminal 2) 13:55 Beirut (ME) 13:56 Victoria (OS) 19:15 Dubii (EK) Lamacı (CY)
Cairo (MS)
Damascus, Paris (AF)

Amsterdam (K.L. 1 emileo (IIA) Athens (IIA) è2:48 HUAZ RAILWAY TRAIN Dep. America Still a reserve Messler Arr. Distinction Still commerces Still commerces Still commerces Still a reserve Mensler Arr. America Still commerces Still commerces Still commerces Still commerces Still commerces and sti MARKET PRICES L'apper himer prive in fals per kg US U framewitht, encoul L ahhage Aut Carrot Cauliflower 441 41) Clansonne r mentaleur (1918c) (प्रकासिक्टा (आजा)। Eggplant Garle Grape Front Marriso (large) Marrow (unall) Omen (green)

Perser (Mer

Pepper (sweet) Postato Rudish

(rite) count i

100 AU 100, 201

130 130 130 452

WHAT'S GO



Regent condoles Shreideh family

DEIR ABI SAEED (Pet-ra) — His Royal Highness

The 29-year-old pilot Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Thursday visited the Shreideh family at Deir Abi Saeed near Irbid and conveyed to them condolences from His Majesty King Hussein over the death of Captain Bilal Abdul Majid Shreideh who died in a plane crash at Marka Airport Wednes-

CEMBER 31, 1994)

RICE

clear facilities

error i la qui<mark>da</mark>

day. His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Ben Al Hussein attended the funeral of Capt. Shreiden who was

The 29-year-old pilot was on take-off from Marka Airport at about 1:00 p.m. Wednesday when his single-seat Extra 300 dove to the ground. Capt. and infant daughter, was laid to rest in his hometown of Deir Abi Saeed.

His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad dele-gated the director of the Irbid Police Department to convey his condolences to the Shreideh family.



Malaysian students of AL al Bayt University Thursday recite Islamic songs during a ceremony marking Al Isra Wal Miraj (Petra photo)

Malaysian students take part in marking Islamic holiday

AMMAN (J.T.) — As part of Jordan's observance of Al-Isra Wal Miraj, Malaysian students of Al al Bayt University recited Islamic songs in a ceremony held at the

university Thursday. At the ceremony, which was attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, university President Mohammad Adnan Al Bakhit said the Israa (Prophet Mohammad's nocturnal journey from Al Masjid Al Haram in Medina Munawarah in Saudi Arabia to Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem), represents the first spiritual conquest of Jerusalem and the the first eternal relationship between Al al Bayt (the Hashemites) and Al Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock in Jeru-

Also addressing the cere-mony were President of the Royal Academy for Islamic Civilisation Research (Al al Bayt Foundation) Naseruddin Al Assad, Chief Islamic Justice Sheikh Nooh Salman and Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Salam Al Abbadi, who all highlight-

ed the importance of this occasion and stressed the eternal relation between Jerusalem and Al al Bayt. Following the ceremony, Prince Hassan and the audi-

ence attended noon prayers

at Bilal Ben Rabah Mosque

at the university.

The ceremony was attended by Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali, speakers of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament, advisors to His Majesty King Hussein and Crown Prince Hassan, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ben Zeid. Cabinet ministers and senior

civil and military officials. In Amman, His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Ben Al Hussein deputised for the King, who is in Austria receiving treatment for an ear infection, and attended a major ceremony held at King

Abdullah Mosque in Abdali. Addressing the ceremony. Minister of Awqaf and Isla-mic Affairs Abdul Salam Al Abbadi reviewed the great meanings and implications of this occasion, particularly at this time, when our nation is

facing many challenges, he Also addressing the congregation was member of the Upper House of Parliament Kamel Al Sharif, who said that Al Isra Wal Miraj is one of the great occasions. It is a great spiritual experience which has significant meaning and implications, he said. The occasion stresses the sta-

guarding the holy places in

by the Hashemites in safe-

tus of Jerusalem and its im-

portance to the Muslim

He praised the role played

Ùmma.

Jordan hopes for economic prosperity in '94 Officials caution against immediate expectations

urging more debt reduction, private sector initiativ

By P.V. Vivekanand Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - Jordan enters 1995 with hopes high that its new found peace with Israel would bring in increased eco-nomic dividends but with strong caution that the fruits of peace could not be re-flected in the lives of people

overnight. Complaints are loud that Jordanians failed to see any significant improvement in their standard of living and that prices rose dramatically

during the year.
Officials argue that the expectations were too high and unrealistic in terms of quick changes in living standards.

The rise in market prices, they say, is the result of one-time economic adjustments to improve the image of Jordan and make its policies internationally compatible at a time when the Kingdom needs to project itself as a haven for foreign invest-

Jordan, which began 1994 with over \$6.8 billion in foreign debts, enters the new year with \$830 million of the debts being written off and nearly

\$3 billion rescheduled. For all technical purposes, the Kingdom does not have any major debt sevicing obligations in 1995-1997, but that is not simply enough to attract the foreign investments it badly needs to address the problems of un-

employment and poverty. Essentially, it would mean reducing the foreign debts by at least half, an objective that the government has set its eyes on in 1995. Most of the creditors of the Kingdom not to mention the U.S., the United Kingdom and Germany which have already extended write-offs — have responded positively, at least verbally, to its call for debt

relief, but concrete steps have yet to materialise. Amman is also hopeful that its request for economic and military assistance (\$2.5 billion per year for the next 10 years) from the U.S. along+the lines Washington extended to Egypt and Israel after their 1978 Camp David

agreements, would meet with

But no-one is able to fore-

see with any degree of

success in 1995.

accuracy the level of Amerall depends on how the U.S. Congress views the need to support and maintain the state of peace between Jordan and Israel and how far Washington lawmakers are convinced of the Jordanian argument that improvement in the standard of living of its people is vital for peace to hold and sustain itself," said a senior official: Nothing was definite for Jordan when it entered 1994;

It watched with apprehension

the course of the Palestinian-Israeli autonomy deal while the Jordanian-Israeli track remained largely neglected with little sign that Israelis were serious in engaging the Kingdom in substantial nego-

The common agenda that Jordan and Israel signed on Sept. 14, 1993, one day after the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Israel formalised their autonomy deal, remained nothing more than a document, although the option was available to Jordan to accept some of the terms set by Israel and sign a peace treaty.

Focus on foreign investment

After signing the peace treaty on Oct. 26, 1994, under which it secured its territorial water rights and addressed its security concerns. Jordan focussed on making itself an attractive target for foreign and local

One week after signing the peace accord, Jordan went to the Casablanca economic conference on the Middle East and North Africa with

proposals for projects worth \$18 billion. Most of the projects pre-sented at the Oct. 30-Nov. 1 conference were of a regional nature, involving benefits for all in the immediate region. Others were more national and related to infrastructure within the country with op-

tions open for foreign invest-Casabianca put Jordan on the economic map of the Middle East and defined its priorities. Officials who represented Jordan at the conference say that the very objective of the exercise - to bring a fresh limelight on the Kingdom and the opportunities available here — was achieved, and that Jordan did not expect announcements of

billions of dollars of foreign investment in the country at the meeting. The Kingdom is now pre-paring for a follow-up confer-ence to be held in Amman in the second half of 1995 with hopes that by that time ideas and proposals made in Casablanca would have been discussed in depth, and fore-

ign investors would be more

interested in bringing capital

to the country.

But, Jordanian economic strategists agree indicated stability resulting from the peace treaty and the democratisation process launched in 1989 are simply not enough to attract foreign investors particularly that the international competition for foreign capital is becoming stiff and Cutting bureaucracy,

raising incentives Spurred by this awareness, the government has moved steadily towards cutting down on bureaucracy and increasing incentives for foreign capital by amending legisla-tion. A draft law on investment promotion prepared by the Royal Commission for Reform and Modernisation has been submitted to the government, incorporating added incentives to an amended draft legislation on companies and foreign in-

The most concrete among the Jordanian moves in this context was the establishment of a "one-stop-window" for investors opened at the Investment

Promotion Department. Critics say, however, that the realisation that it is time for dramatic changes in Jordan's traditional approaches is limited to top-level thinking. They argue that the you-wait-while-I-take-a-nap mindset of medium- and junior-level bureaucrats has not changed much despite the efforts launched by the Royal Commission which is headed

by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. Information Minister Jawad Anani, appeared to be implicitly referring to this state of affairs when he emphasised the need for Jordanians "to work hard" to reap the benefits of peace. In a television interview broadcast on Thursday, Dr. Anani cautioned that the fruits of peace would not come on their own to Jordan without

the Kingdom working to reap

Pinning hopes on the private sector The Kingdom is pinning high hopes on the private sector to assume a leading role in investment projects. The 1993-1997 development plan prepared by the Ministry of Planning gives a lion's share to private sector invest-

ments in areas that include

Notwithstanding the un-

infrastructure.

changed belief of some businessmen that the state has to deliver projects to them on a silver platter, a recent gathering of regional businessmen held in Cairo under the auspices of the European Union (EU) showed that the Jordanian that it had to take the initiative, participants say. Jordanian businessmen

who attended the Dec. 5-7 meeting in Cairo were "shocked in the positive sense" when they saw how their Israeli counterparts went about finalising deals with European counterparts without falling back on the government, said a partici-

"Sure enough, the shock was a catalyst in spurring

realise that they do not and should not depend on the government to lead them by the band to projects," said the participant. "Of course, the government has to play a role, but the bulk of the work has to be undertaken by the

private sector itself." There is enough liquidity in the country for new investments, but commercial banks are unable to lend extra liquidity to new ventures if only because of a ceiling on credits imposed by the Inter-national Monetary Fund (IMF). The government says that it is trying to exempt credit facilities for industrial

projects from the ceiling. The government is also hopeful that the Palestine National Authority (PNA) would be more forthcoming in its perceptions of economic relations with Jordan in 1995 and would ratify an agreement the two sides drafted in

Tourism is an area that Jordan expected to see booming after the signing of the peace treaty. But, as it turned out, Israeli tourists visiting Jordan are spending little money in the Kingdom. The government is unable to do anything in this context. The Israeli government says that entry visa charges as well as admission fees to some of the tourist attractions in Jor-

dan make up a good income for the Kingdom. Annual economic growth is expected to be slightly less than six per cent, and infla-

tion around four per cent during the year. Exports are estimated to have risen to more than JD 2.5 billion during the year, registering a more than 10 per cent increase over 1993. Definite figures for imports are not yet available, but the final figure for the year is expected to be much higher than the JD 630 million reg-

istered during 1993. Economic measures

adopted in 1994

Among the major economic measures adopted by the government in 1994 were: - Introduction of seven to 20 per cent sales tax to replace a consumption tax. The move, which drew heavy criticism. was. however, seen as taxation structure of the country. Changes in the income tax structure are being studied. - Exempting all income

from exports from the income tax. Rescheduling of \$1.3 billion in foreign debts.

— Securing \$830 million in debt write-off (including \$702 million from the U.S. in three years, \$74 million from the United Kingdom and \$50 million from Germany.

An employee registers transactions at Kinoncial Market Increasing the pension and salaries of civil servants and servicemen. Teachers

were given special considera-

Reducing customs duties on vehicles. Further

reductions are expected next - Moving to restructure financially troubled Royal

Jordanian, the national carrier, by increasing its capital. - Announcing moves to privatise the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC). A concession to install and operate Jordan's first cellular

phone system was given to a local company in affiliation with an American giant. - Undertaking moves to salvage some of the troubled

state-owned enterprises.

correct the imbalances and inefficiencies in the energy and water sectors.

- Launching moves to

- Preparing a draft budget for 1995 worth JD 1.674 biltion with a JD 50 million deficit. The budget was approved unchanged by Parliament in return for a government undertaking to imrecommended reforms. The reforms, if im-

plemented, according to their proponents, would go a long way in correcting many "shortcomings" in the economy and their repercussions on the low-income group. The Amman Financial

Market (AFM), the Jordanian bourse that is widely seen as the main barometer for investor confidence, fared badly during the year.

tions with the Palest influenced and curbegrowth of the market: throughout the year. A further to investor scer was that capital gains be subject to taxation changed legislation o with less-than-antic flow of foreign capit: the market. Dozens o panies also raised their al under controlled me. drawing capital away the immediate trading

In the first six mor the year, the foreign change reserves of plunged by over \$300 as a result of high. demand for foreign

and lower-than-expe ward expatriate remi-Contrary to reports a gestions, the flow of currency to the West exchange for dina found to be insignifi

The Central Bank dan (CBJ) said ea month that it had mar stabilise the reserves than the early-1993 f \$600 million.

from the zero reser the CBJ had at the 1988, and a key indica the present monetar tion of the Kingdom prompt any devalu: the currency. In fact, according

Governor Mohamma Nabulsi, the dinar caa higher exchange against most inter currencies, but any valuation would refle

leagues this year. In a statement

end of his tour in A

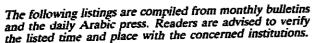
Mr. Kawar said trucks woudl be al

on the old road h

into and out of .

city betwen 8:00

WHAT'S GOING ON Trucks to be allowed ba on old road to Agaba



Triple features untitled "The Legand of Sleep Hollow," "Winnie the Pooh and the Blustery Day," and "The Wind in the Willows" at the American Centre on Thursday at 5:00 p.m. BAZAR CHRISTMAS DISPLAY

"Ramadan Charity Bazaar" at Al Ahliya School for Girls, Jabai Amman, First Circle (10:00 a.m.-4:00

p.m.) ☆ Bani Hamida Christmas Display with a variety of small gift items at Bani Hamida House, Jabal Amman, First Circle, Rainbow Street.

EXHIBITIONS

☆ Exhibition of oil paintings by Mahmoud Musa at the Phoenix Gallery for Culture and Art.

☆ Plastic art exhibition by Laila Kawash at the Royal

Cultural Centre. ☆ Exhibition of works by Mahmud Obaidi at Darat Al Funun. Also showing an exhibition of portraits by Fahrelnissa Zeid and the exhibition of contemporary

☆ Exhibition of paintings by Ismail and Tamam Shammout at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation.

☆ Exhibition by artists Lattif Al Khateeb and Muhy

Khaleefa at the Housing Bank Gallery.

☆ Exhibition at Mona Saudi's Studio, Abdoun Village Tel.: 829700 until Dec. 31st, 1994.

French pilot

(Continued from page 12) although Interior Minister Charles Pasqua said on Tuesday he was "pretty sure" gunmen's leader was

named Abdullah Yahia. Algeria has been in turmoil since the government called off a 1992 general election that the fundamentalist Islamic Salvation Front was poised to win. About 20,000

people have been killed in the ensuing three years of civil strife.

An Algerian group warned Friday that it now had a "legal duty" to wage war on France in the wake of the bloody end to last week's

Airbus hijack. The Islamic Salvation Army (AIS) said in a newsletter published Friday that war against France has become a legal duty" under Islamic Sharia law.



Wissam Boustany



Boustany, Fouad to ring in the New Year with a flute and piano recital Royal Cultural Centre Franck as well as Boustany's own compositions. Real

By Jean-Claude Elias Special to the Jordan Times

Found.

AMMAN - Flute master Wissam Boustany is back in Jordan for an evening recital, this time with pianist Amira

Under the patronage of H.R.H. Prince Ra'd Ben Zeid, Al Hussein Society for the Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped, in cooperation with the British Council in Amman, and with special sponsorship by the Amman Marriott Hotel, has invited Mr. Boustany and Ms. Fouad to perform on Wednesday, Jan. 4 at the

Mr. Boustany's resume in-

dicates that he performed in 1991 under the baton of the great Claudio Abbado. However, after a complete reading of the resume and the unanimouis, superlative press critiques of the Daily Telegraph, The Guardian, The Times and others, one is tempted to re-arrange the sentence to read "Claudio Abbado had the pleasure and

the honour to conduct Wissam Boustany." Mr. Boustany and Ms.

Fouad will play works by

Donizetti, Doppler, Chopin,

formers are of Arab origin ---Mr. Boustany is from Lebanon and a British citizen now. and Ms. Fouad was born in Scotland to Egyptian parents.

They have both lived and studied in Great Britain. Wissam Boustany does not consider it sufficient to play

with unsurpassed virtuosity, taste and musicianship, thus joining great flutists such as Jean-Pierre Rampal of France and others, he is also concerned with bringing tohis audiences contemporary works through attractive

Amira Fouad studied in Canada, England and France. She was the winner

of the "Young Artist Com-petition," and has played and recorded in solo recitals in Canada. Ms. Fouad, has also performed with the Cairo Symphony Orchestra.

The Canadian "Kingston Whing Standard," of Ontario, wrote about her: "...The freshness of youth, plus a brilliant technique...

The new year could not start with musicians of higher standards than Mr. Boustany

on the Kingdom's e Uncertainties of the peace

AQABA (Petra) — In response to truck drivers' protests abouit unsafe conditions of the ring road around the port city of Aqaba, Minister of Transport Samir Kawar announced that trucks can will now be allowed to use the old road to Aqaba at night.

was made following an inspection tour of the Aqaba region and the ring road by Mr. Kawar and the interior and public works minister. Trucks drivers com-

The announcemnet

muting between Aqaba and Amman last week staged a strike saying that "the death road" was responsible for the death of 21 of their coland 7:00 a.m. He also anno that the Ministry c lic Works will take sures to improv conditions on th kilometre ring re soon as possible.

Mr. Kawar als

that the Coun Ministers will soo: regulations order trucks to reduce per cent the 13 axial weight al under the previou ulations.

OBITUARY

The Chechen and the North Caucasia t munity in Jordan mourn the deat? American photographer/journalist,

CYNTHIA ELBAUN a sister who shared the death and plight Chechenya. Our deepest condices to h family and the American pec'

Tel/Fax 6-8315

ilef Warrant Officer by Hall looked pale and and was wearing the flying suit he wore 1 his helicopter went in North Korea on 17 as he crossed the ly fortified Korean bornto South Korea in the

icer Hall, 20, flew to for a medical check-up ebriefing, and then left the United States in the

sident Bill Clinton exd his relief at Officer release. He said he had n with Officer Hall by one, and that Officer nad said he was well. Brooksville, Florida. r Hall's family wept jugged one another they learned he was

is is a moment of great less for the American said U.S. Deputy int Secretary of State is Hubbard, who was > seek Officer Hall's in Pyongyang, and d with him.

Hubbard said the nucct was now on track. : DPRK has up to now

INGTON (R) — U.S.

nt Bill Clinton, vow-

champion his agenda

ore his low popularity

said Thursday he in-

o seek reelection in

d can see nothing that

nake him change his

interview with news

"I'm just going to

reporters, Mr. Clin-

ing the very best job I

tend to seek reelec-

t that is not upper-

at had been upper-

KIA (AFP) - Presi-

son Mandela Friday

394 as an "epoch-

cear" for South Afri-

ch saw the end of

d and significant

i towards redressing

re at the close of a

heid system, which

tire world was

. Мт. Mandela said

w Year's message

nation we can be

l for what was

and proud of the

that since the April

elections the new

*ESBURG (AFP) eaceful end of 300

white rule, a black

, a new govern-ew flag and a new

the world: small

outh Africans dub-

"The Year of the

successfully steered

y through the early

the transition from

I to multi-party

1, however, Presi-

on Mandela now

wen more daunting

oving the lot of the

ning black major-

i agree, has yet to

byrong, has with his

€ lack of guile.

lecome the most

strusted South Afri-

nr ever. Interna-

s stature has been

fc Mahatma Gan-

si polls show that,

tc. part to Mr. Man-

th South Africans are

year significantly pristic than they be-

stras revisited much

timtry after a decade

al violence that left

He,000 dead, growth has

Miro the economy,

theprofits are begin-

to and foreign inves-

sign retracing their witte a Africa.

dec legional threats

souzi to Mangosuthu

mandeladraw from

are the nevulti-party

Synating mernment

list than exp.harmo-

whiev, has suce and,

• oret

. iion

nan XOSE

E'eft during apar-

chich we conducted

, to journalists.

ے" he said.

saw the defeat of

lgs of the past.

my mind.

do my very best to

faithfully implemented its part of the agreed framework and we believe that it is in our interest that we do the same and we are therefore pleased that we can now look to the future and implement the important project."

Under the accord reached in October, designed to eliminate North Korea's ability to produce nuclear arms. Washington is to arrange the supply to Pyongyang of new nuclear reactors costing \$4 billion and interim supplies of fuel oil.

The two countries also agreed to take steps towards establishing normal diplomatic relations.

Mr. Hubbard said he had 'two rather difficult days" in Pyongyang working for Officer Hall's release, but he had cut no deals.

Pyongyang says it brought down the U.S. helicopter with one shot and Officer Hall's co-pilot David Hilemon, whose body was handed over last week, was killed in the crash.

It accused the Americans of espionage and issued what it described as Officer Hall's confession to "illegal intrusion." Washington says the helicopter strayed across the border accidentally.

Mr. Clinton also said the United States had given up nothing in the agreement that secured Officer Hall's re-

nton expects to seek reelection

would have taken on all these

tough battles and all the in-

terest groups I've taken on

the last two years," Mr. Clin-

"any reasons" that would

keep him from seeking a

second term in 1996, Mr.

Clinton replied: "No. I have

my health, and I'm doing a

The declaration of his in-

tentions, coming two years before Mr. Clinton's term

ends, was unusual. Most in-

cumbent presidents tend to

idela hails an 'epoch- making' 1994

and had made "significant

progress."
"A national consensus has

been forged on the policy to

bring a better life to all South

Africans," he said, adding

that all seven parties that

made up the government of

national unity were united

behind the Reconstruction

and Development Program-

me (RDP) to wipe out the

cent of the vote and domin-

ates the National Assembly,

followed by the former ruling

National Party, the Zulu-

based Inkatha Freedom Party

and four other smaller par-

Listing his government's

uniting all sectors of society

behind Mr. Mandela's Re-

construction and Develop-

The programme aims in

five years to create 2.5 mil-

lion jobs, build one million

houses and electrify another

2.5 million, provide 10 years

of free education to all and

redistribute 30 per cent of all

however, there is little con-

crete evidence that the gov-

ernment will come anywhere

near meeting these targets.

After seven months,

"At the moment, (the

RDP) is little more than a

mantra in the public mind,

chanted in expectation of

magical delivery," said jour-nalist and political commen-

tator Alistair Sparks in a re-

policy stage has been com-pleted," he added. "Now the

policies must be im-

plemented. It is delivery

He warned that the prog-ramme must be restructured

"to make some quick and

highly visible deliveries" if

popular expectations are not

If deliveries are not forth-

coming, he added, "the im-

patience will grow and may

well start developing racist

overtones," eventually lead-ing to "the kind of racial

confrontation that has always

been this country's worst-

Kaizer Nyatsumba of the

Johannesburg Star, warned

that a "new mood" had re-

placed the euphoria that

swept black townships after

April's historic all-race elec-

tions brought Mr. Mandela to

Another commentator.

to reach crisis level.

case scenario."

"For the most part, the

cent article.

farmland to blacks.

ment Programme (RDP).

lities threaten S. African 'miracle'

The ANC won 62.6 per

injustices of apartheid.

Asked if he could think of

ton said.

good job.

at had been upper-my mind. I never uniform did in the inter-

int of national unity achievements, Mr. Mandela

unified than ever said initial plans to imple-

"Chief Warrant Officer Hall was held for too long after his helicopter strayed off course on a routine training mission. But we are very glad that he has been released and is now in free-

dom," he said. Mr. Clinton rejected a suggestion that the deal meant Washington's ally, South Korea, would be cut out of future U.S. contacts with the North, which Seoul strongly resists.

"The terms of the agreement are clear from their own words. We were faithful to all of our commitments to our allies and to our commitments to our own policies," Mr. Clinton said.

Mr. Hubbard said the United States had not negotiated for Officer Hall's release, but only stated its case and expressed its "sincere regrets" for the "accidental intru-

Pyongyang Radio, moni-tored in Tokyo Friday said North Korea agreed to return Officer Hall because the United States had "accepted our demand."

North Korea asked for. and the United States agreed to, further bilateral military contacts to prevent incidents which threaten peace and security on the Korean penin-

"The United States also agreed to our demand to give

view, often waiting until the

year of the election before

bluntly stating their candida-

can landslide in the Novem-

ber congressional and guba-

natorial elections, there has

been speculation among

some Democratic officials

and political experts that Mr.

Clinton might decide not to

Mr. Clinton brushed aside

the possibility that he might

be challenged for his party's

nomination, saying: "I don't

know and I'm not worried

ment RDP projects had been

taken and others would make

will adopt fiscal policies

marking a departure from the

days of apartheid," he said.

will be a priority.

"Uplifting living conditions

promote human rights has

been introduced, land reform

had begun in earnest and a

legislative programme to ease

the way to institutional

change was well in hand, he

"These achievements are a

tribute to the glorious people

we are," he said. "As we

enter this New Year I wish to

congratulate all South Afri-

cans on their selfless efforts

"Some people in the black

community are beginning to

feel they have been cheated."

Mr. Nyatsumba wrote, "be-

cause there is a strong

perception that the concerns

of the white business com-

munities have so far received

priority at the expense of

those people gave the ANC almost a two-thirds majority

Mr. Mandela, during the

ANC's national conference'

from Dec. 17-21, denied that

the government was pander-

ing to whites at the expense

of blacks, saying that the policy of reconciliation had

been given priority during the

first seven months of his gov-

ernment in order to soothe

long-standing racial hatreds.

it was time for "visible"

change in the lives of black

Acknowledging delays in

implementing the program-me, Mr. Mandela called for

patience, saying his govern-ment had been saddled with

economic problems created

by the previous white minor-

Now, however, he added.

in the election."

people.

to make this possible."

The Constitutional court to

"In 1995 the government

an early start next year.

seek a second term.

In the wake of the Republi-

necessary cooperation so that unconverted prisoners of war (North Korean coldiers held by South Korea) can be returned home quickly." if

In Seoul, Mr. Hubbard expressly denied there had been or would be bilateral military contacts with the North, and said the prisoner of war issue was for the two Korcas to

The U.S. military says contacts between North Korean and U.S. army officers over Officer Hall were carried out on the U.S. side under the auspices of the U.N. Command in Korea, which supervises the Korean War armis-

White House officials said Mr. Clinton spoke to South Korean President Kim Young-Sam and stressed that the nuclear agreement was not altered by the arrangement freeing Officer Hall. Seoul welcomed the re-

lease but urged Pyongyang to resume dialogue with the South to ease tensions. The two Koreas are still technical-Jy at war since their 1950-53 conflict, as no peace treaty has ever been signed by them.

The helicopter incident had prompted an angry response from many U.S. congressmen, who said unless Officer Hall was freed quickly it would threaten the nuclear agreement.

Major optimistic for U.K. in 1995

LONDON (AFP) -- Prime Minister John Major Friday voiced optimism for Britain in 1995, ascribing persistent economic woes to his demsion to go for long-term growth rather than a popular, but "dangerous," short-term

In a wide-ranging end-ofyear BBC internew recorded earlier, Mr. Major also realfirmed his commitment to a unified European, saying there would be no concessions to the nuse Conservative Party Euro-sebek who

have divided his party. "There is a sea change," he said. "The high tide of federalism in Europe has been reached and is declining. There are still enthusiasts not myself believe that they will carry the day."

"The argument that we should be in Europe, fighting for the sort of Europe we care about, will carry the day because I believe that is the majority view amongst the British people."

Mr. Major also said he was confident that lasting peace in Northern Ireland was at hand, the will of the people to end violence serving as "a very powerful impetus" towards a political settlement.

Asked about a scathing year of political misfortune that left him and his government at the bottom of opinion polls. Mr. Major said: "Politics is sometimés a bumpy ride. If you're prepared to accept the bumps, don't go in

for the ride." The current economic difficulties were the result of problems going back five years, said Mr. Major, adding that the fruits of recovery had not yet reached people's pockets because the four per cent growth had mainly gone to investment.
"My concern has always

been what is right for the country and that is the way we will determine future policy," he said.

cugnation of Salanddin Queder Chowelbury, from the Namonal Democratic Party.

Awasti League leader Sheikh Hasina Wajed said

Bardot guits Saint-Tropez

TOULON, France (AFP) French actress and animal rights campaigner Brighte Bardot said Thursday the is quitting Saint-Tropes, the French rivers fishing village her presence transformed into a playground of the rich and famous. Bardot told a news conference that her Paris-based animal rights foundation now took up so much time that it was a handscap for her to be so far away Besides, "Saint-Fronce is no longer Saint-Tropez for me. she said, adding: "Everything has changed too much." A victim of its own success, Saint-Tropes is now a magnet for backpackers and the budget end of the holiday market. Bardot walked out on Saint-Tropez last June amid a highly-publicised row with Mayor Jean-Michel Couve, vowing not to return until he left office, in protest at the council's decision to let one of its halls to a hunters' convention. Reports said Mr. Couve had finally managed to mollify her by seeking her advice on what to do about the pigeons that were becoming a pest in the town. She spent Christmas with her husband Bernard d'Ormal and friends at her villa at La Madrague on the outskirts of Saint-Tropez, and compered an "Animals" Christmas" at nearby Hyeres Thursday. She made a plea for homes for neglected animals and campaigned for low-cost sterilisation of animals to stop the orecreation of unwanted

Row erupts after no winners in Manila filmfest

MANILA (R) — Judges at an annual Philippine Film Festival have refused to hand out award for best picture and director, saying none of the entries were good crough. Mano Hernando, a film critic and one of the judges, told a television station Wednesday that all six films failed to make a mark. "We wanted to send a message to the producers that the quality of the movies should be improved. They should not make films just for the sake of participating. This has been the weakest filmlest in terms of quality," he said. Only the awards for best actor and actross were bonded out to virtual unknowns. Philippine films, frequently made on the cheap, are typecally comedy or action tales that glorify violence. The decision of the jurors Tuesday evening, which left movie producers and directors speechless, came a few months after a scandal rocked the intrigue-ridden Philinpine industry. Actress Ruffa Gutierrez, powerful movie manager Lolit Solis and two other actors are on trial accused of plotting to rig awards for best actor and actress in another film festival in June. Gutierrez, Solis and another actor deny fraud charges over the alleged switch of envelopes containing the names of the winners. Officials of an auditing company which counted the bal-lots of the judge on Tuesday night stood behind the pre-

name was announced. Royal Navy offers sailors

senters to make sure the right

LONDON (R) - Sailors in Britain's Royal Navy can now switch their daily drink ration from beer to wine. One of the reasons cited for the decision is the presence of 40,000 WRENS in the Navy. The move, announced in the navy newspaper, won immediate plaudits. One woman serving on the aircraft carnet Ark Royal said: "Most of the girls prefer wine. It's more femi-nine." In 1970, the navy dropped a 300-year-old tradition of giving sailors a daily tot of run.

Mother of 12 denied French big family medal

PARIS (R) - A Frenchwoman with 12 children accused the government of hard-heartedness for refusing her a gold medal awarded to mothers of hig families. Solange Clarenn, 73, had five of her children before she married their father - disqualifying her from getting the medal automatically awarded to women with eight or more children born in wedlock. I was a good mother... my children have no reason to reproach me. I've done what I can for them," she told France's TF. 1 television in an interview in her home in the custern French region of Meurthe et

Bangladesh political crisis lumbers on after Zia olive branch rejected

DHAKA (AFP) - A poline-al crisis that has wracked Bangladeshi politics sisce March appeared far from resolution Priday, as opposition MPs rejected an olive branch held out by Prime Missister Khaleda Zia.

Parliament Speaker Shelkh Ratrak Ali (Otto-

tre) balds resignation letters of the main

opposition Award League. On the right is league chief Shelish Hasins Wajed. The

opposition said 147 MF's resigned, instead of

"We have already mixed for the government's maneta ate resignation and the holding of fresh elections," 35 opposition official told AFP. rejecting Mrs. Ziz's offer to step down in 1996, 30 days before the country's next scheduled polits.

Mohammad Nasum of the Awami League told AFP that opposition MPs would also not reconsider their mass nosignation from parliament Wednesday, despite a pleas from Mrs. Zia to sep their seats "for the sake of the country."

Mr. Name said there had been no contact between the opposition and government overnight and that all previous offers from the missing perty were "dead."

Government and reling party officials were unavail able for common Finday.

The three man oppositions groups Wednesday handed in resignation papers from 147 MPs accessing the govern-ment of falling to accept a nine-month-old domaind that Mrs. Zia step down and agree to new elections under a neutral administration.

Mrs. Zin's offer to step down prior to the 1996 elecneed and her surprise appeal to the opposition came opposition-called general strike is the capital Thurs-

tay, and a logal controversy over the temperatures. Parliamentary Speaker Shekis Ruzzak Ali said be received the resignation letbundles, adding that he would have to look at each document individually since they were not presented to has a person.

Bangiadosh's constitution requires MPs personally to based in propose of resignation

to the speaker.

Sources a preference said

Mr Ah, whi to be ready out
re the capital had south
legal advice on the contreversy and would return bere Saturday to give his

The sources also said some epposition MPs had conthe seed Mr. All after the mass residence expressing a de-

Of the 147 MPs, only the was accepted as he personally gave notice to Mr. Ali.

Thursday that the MPs would

demands were met by the government, but did not say of the included an end to the carross parliamentary crisis.
Reacting to news of Mrs.
Zia's offer, Mr. Nasim said it was "morally impossible to accept" as the MPs had siready tendered their res-The reaction by the local

reconsider their stand if their

152 as some world fallow suit in the next

several days. The resignation came after lexi-ditch effects falled to end a sine-mouth stan-delf (AFP photo)

press Friday to the political impasse was pessionable, with the Star daily saying in an editorial that the nation had boon plunged "into a fathomless pit of uncertainty."
The feeling is one of

being led up to a pasture of hope and then suddenly we find the ladder (deemed) to fall," it said.

But the Bangladesh Observer for its part said is hoped "the process of dialogue cined at a reasonable solution of the problem will be servived in a spirit of give and

"Both the government and the parties in opposition owe a great deal to the people whose fundamental rights and interests should not only be protected but advanced with positive accoms," it said.

The political standoff began with an opposition boycost of parliament in March, with each side the other of sinking offers to end the criss.

CIA director Woolsey résigns — Clinton

WASHINGTON (R) - removered for some time, and ment lapses in the critical President Bill Climton has moraic had dropped at the area of counterintelligence. amnounced that Central in- agency after the s telligence Agency (CIA) Director lames Wookey had

retigned. released by A state ince card Mr. Clinton is accepted with regret Mr. Woolsey's resigna-Clinton tion and praised his accomplishments in advancing the transformation of U.S. intelligence in the aftermath of the cold war.

The announcement is not entirely a summaria washington. Mr. We say resignation bad are

rounding Aldrich Ames, a CIA employee convicted of spying for Moscow.

statusch advocate of maintaining an intelligence capebility that is second to none," Mr. Channe said in the state-

"He has taken initiatives to streamline and tone costly collection ems, imof both įysis ani bas som g manage-

candal sur- "Jim Woolsey deserves the gratitude of all Americans for his service to our country. He has my deep approciation." in Woolsey has been a Mr China said. Mr. Clinton also reiterated

the importance that intelligence plays in protecting American interests around the world.

"I remain committed to ensuring that (CIA empioyees) have the support, resources and leadership needed to continue their outstanding service to their country," he said.

Truce violations ported in Liberia

MONROVIA (AFP) — Renewed clashes between Liberia's armed factions were reported less than 24 hours after a ceasefire came into effect to end five years of civil war, U.N. sources said Fri-

However, a U.N. official put the incidents down to a 'communication problem' and said there was "no need for alarm" as some fighters may not yet know about the

Clashes were reported Thursday in the southeastern Rivercess County between Charles Taylor's National

Patriotic Front (NPFL) and the Liberta Peace Council (LPC) several hours after the ceasefire took effect at midnight Wednesday. Each faction has blamed

the other for the incident. An LPC official claimed "the ceasefire had to be broken" due to an 'unprovoked attack" by NPFL gunmen. But NPFL officials said the LPC launched the attack across a major highway.

Fighting between the two factions has also been reported in the southeastern Grand Bassa County, according to military sources in the

The NPFL has clashed with Roosevelt Johnson's Krahn wing of the United Liberation Movement (ULIMO) at Bong Mines, 75 kilometres (45 miles) north of Monrovia. Johnson confirmed the report but said he had told his men

to respect the ceasefire. Under the ceasefire agreement reached in Ghana, which currently chairs the Economic Community of West African States (ÉCO-WAS), Liberia's wariords are to continue informing their fighters about the ceasefire until Jan. 11.

European Union becomes 15 on Jan. 1

BRUSSELS (AFP) — When Austria, Finland and Sweden Arctic Circle.

ity government.

He also said the program-

goods and services.

start soon, there will be freedom of movement for people without identity checks among seven countries. Beigium, France, Germany. Luxembourg, the Nether-lands, Portugal and Spain It took almost 10 years to

arrange for Portuguese and Spanish entry, but negociations with the three newcomers took barely one year. They are strong countries with a strong democratic tradition and are leaders in

social security and protection of the environment. Having to accept EU regulations posed no problem. On the contrary, their arrival ought to impel the 12 to make up for lost time, particularly

in environmental matters. A four-year transitional period has been set to mapt EU legislation to the histor standards of the new nem-

For trade and the oconomy, the newcomers membership of the European Economic Area along with losland, Liechtenstein and Nor-way has greatly facilitated en-try to the EU single big mar-

Agriculture and regional aid were the toughtst items on the agenda, inquiring marathon negotiations carly this year.

To avoid too penaltil a shock to their farmers, who get payments up to state the rate of EU common agricultural policy tariffs, Austria and Finland are being allowed to common payments for a while, of a decreasing scale.

Sweden has already adjusted its farm payment system and will get financial compensation in recognition Of its efforts.

In the battles for regional aid. Finland sought massive EU help for most of its territory, arguing that the Finnish summer lasts only some weeks and that it needed help to avoid describication of the regions adjoining Russia along 1,300 kilometres (805 miles) of joint border.

It won a promise of special aid for regions of low population density, and, with Sweden, for Arctic regions. Austria was given concessions, for a transitional period, to continue subsidies for mountain farming and to restrict heavy lorry traffic from elsewhere on its roads.

Despite their traditional neutrality, the three new members face no problems with foreign policy and joint security, since there is currently little enthusiasm among the other members for ioint action in those spheres. | Moselle.

me was long-term and needed careful planning. "Ours is not a programme of quick handouts but one for serious and lasting transformation," Mr. Mandela

Commentators question, however, whether it is not already too late for the ANC to avoid a backlash from the millions of homeliss. jobless and hungry when it comes to voting in the crucial countrywide municipal elections scheduled for next October.

join the European Union (EU) on New Year's Day, raising EU membership to 15 nations, the community will stretch from the Atlantic to the Hungarian border and from the Peloponnesus to the

Unlike in 1986, when Portugal and Spain joined, the new enlargement entails much more ambitious aims: to create a real union which has its own foreign policy and joint security, plus a single currency, before the end of the century in keeping with the Maastricht Treaty.

The new grouping with more than 370 million people will from the start comprise an economic area without internal borders, with freedom of movement for capital. In an initial phase due to

Presents, a cuttinge demedity Bachdad

Hasser and his injured colleague ne announce Project with



Rose presses on with Bosma truce mission

SARAJEVO (R) — United Nations chiefs in Bosnia Friday pressed ahead with efforts to persuade the warring factions to agree a fourmonth ceasefire aimed at paving the way to a political settlement of the 33-month

itg. ,6Z

 $^{h,e}\left(M\rho_{1}\right)$ and animal ari Rususe

Ireday she y tropes. The whene vollage

transformed

if that her arms a tribute to the her arms at the her arms at

was a hand.

ran Michel

 $d = \operatorname{trib}_{B_{AB}}$

 $1 \leq \sup_{x \in \mathcal{Y}_{\mathcal{X}}} g_{\mathcal{X}}$

s after

in

15

ch

mgal

ifest

Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Rose, commander of U.N. forces in Bosnia, held nearly three hours of talks in Sarajevo with Bosnian Vice-President Ejup Ganic and other members of the

Muslim-led government.
His immediate superior,
General Bertrand De Lapresle, was planning an appeal to rebel Serbs in Croatia in an attempt to bring them into a ceasefire process they have so

Gen. Rose's discussions in the Bosnian capital were intended to hammer out remaining details of the ceasefire deal, under which U.N. troops would police buffer zones between the Bosnian Serb and Bosnian government forces.

United Nations spokesman Alex Ivanko told reporters more talks might be needed to finalise matters.

"Another meeting may be necessary to facilitate the full text of the cessation of hostilities agreement," he said, but added: "UNPROFOR (the U.N. Protection Force) still believes an agreement can be signed tomorrow or Sunday.'

The proposed four-month ceasefire was the result of a freelance peace mission to Bosnia earlier this month by former U.S. President Jimmy

Mr. Carter negotiated a seven-day Christmas ceasefire which stopped most of the fighting in Bosnia except



Santa Claus gives New Year gift-parcels to children in a Sarajevo theatre, in a traditional delivery prepared for children of the theatre employees (AFP photo)

for the Bihac enclave where Croatian Serb and rebel Muslim forces joined attacks on government troops.

The seven-day truce was intended to allow time for talks on the wider, fourmonth ceasefire.

Gen. Rose and Bosnian Serb military commander General Ratko Mladic said after a meeting Thursday that they still hoped to meet the scheduled Jan. 1 deadline for signing the ceasefire agree-

Commenting on Gen. Rose's talks in Pale, Mr. Ivanko said: "Significant progress was made in reconciling the draft cessation of hostilities agreement. An amalgamated text was agreed upon with the Bosnian Serb authorities."

He said Gen. Rose then met Mr. Ganic and other Bosnian officials in Sarajevo and presented them with the revised text of the cessation of hostilities agreement.

Mr. Ivanko added: "The Bosnian government also provided UNPROFOR with its own draft of saich an UN-amparing agreement based of UNPROFOR draf PROFOR is now 🐯 these two drafts and frying to work out a common docu-

The Bosnian government has said it wants an end to ceasefire agreement to which fighting in the northwestern they are not signatories.

Bosnian enclave of Bihac before it will agree the deal.

The United Nations pledged to make efforts to bring the Croatian Serbs, who are not a party to the

into the ceasefire process. Gen. De Lapresle, the overall U.N. military comer in former Yugoslaisit rebel Croabeir headquar-

truce and who have been

attacking the Bihac enclave,

n said: "General De Lapresie is planning to visit Knin where he will meet local Arab authorities to try to convince them to respect the letter and spirit of the

"UNPROFOR would like to stress the ceasefire continues to hold although violations are still being registered.

Major Herve Gourmelon, a U.N. military spokesman, said: "The area was very quiet throughout the day as the céasefire continues to take effect. The Bihac pocket is still the most active area, especially around Velika Kla-

He said there had been 26 confirmed ceasefire violations across Bosnia over the past 24 hours, six determined to be of joint responsibility, four the fault of the Bosnian government army and 16 assessed as the fault of the Bosnian Serb Army.

Presidential poll will hamper France's EU role

PARIS (AFP) — France's six months in the EU chair starting on New Year's Day will be made more problematic by the election, due in April President Francois Mitter-

As president of the Euro-pean Council, France will have to handle the arrival of Austria, Finland and Sweden, bringing European Union (EU) membership to 15 states, and work with a new EU Commission headed by newcomer Jacques Santer of Luxembourg, successor to the long-serving Jacques De-

lors of France. To offset the vagaries of domestic politics, the government here has for some months already been coordinating work schedules with the outgoing Germans and the Spaniards who will take over the presidency in mid-

The watchword of the French stewardship would be continuity, Foreign Minister Alain Juppe said.

Government and diplomatic sources also expect the French to find time for their pet concerns of relations with Mediterranean states, security in Europe, and European cultural identity.

The timetable drawn up by Paris for meetings of the EU council of ministers is blank for six weeks in April and May because of the French presidential poll, with voting in two rounds on April 23 and

May 7.

The winner will have precious little time to be briefed on chairing the EU heads of state and government summit in Cannes on the Riviera at the end of June, when there will be an end-of-term report on the French tenure.

European Affairs Minister Alain Lamassoure admitted the overlapping of European dates and French domestic affairs "will incontestably pose problems for us."

Prime Minister Edouard Balladur, favourite in the opinion polls to win the presidential race, will be expected to conduct government business as usual, while Mr. Juppe is heavily involved in promoting the presidential prospects of Mr. Balladur's rival Jacques Chirac, mayor

The decision of the Socialist Delors not to run has considerably lessened risks of direct confrontation between proponents and foes of the federal" Europe so dear to Mr. Delors when he was in Brussels. But debate on the future structure of Europe remains open.

Aftershocks hit quake- stricken Japanese city

HACHINOHE, Japan (R)
— Strong aftershocks from a powerful earthquake rumbled through northern Japan Friday and were predicted to continue as residents rushed to clean up before the New - could occur for the next Year holiday.

Shoppers buying in for the holiday filled the streets of central Hachinohe, a fishing port 400 kilometres north of Tokyo, which suffered widespread damage when a major quake struck off Japan's Pacific coast late Wednesday

As cleanup operations con-

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian Prime Minister P.V. Nara-

simha Rao axed challenger

Arjun Singh from the Congress Party's Campaign Com-

mittee for February's state

polls and signalled an immi-

nent shake-up, party leaders

Mr. Singh, a powerful par-ty leader who had been in-

cluded in all key campaign

decisions so far, was kept out

of the 26-member committee

that will devise campaign

strategy in five states voting

in February, they said.

Congress, which lost power in three of four states that

voted last month, faces se-

rious challenges in the up-

coming elections.

said Friday.

tinued around the clock, city officials said they were worried by seismologists' predictions that aftershocks measuring as high as seven on the open-ended Richter Scale

Protection Agency Thursday forecast further tremors.

"I'm not certain as to the scientific basis of the prediction, but as it was made by experts, I feel worried," Hachinohe Mayor Nobuo Nakasato told reporters after

India in an interview published Friday that he planned to change the president for the president of the pres

It said he was likely to reshuffle his cabinet wew

The recent election defeats

were compounded by the res-

ignation last week of Mr.

Singh, the human resource

development minister, who

criticised Mr. Rao's lead-

ership for betraying the in-

terests of the poor and minor-

ities, traditional Congress

In his resignation letter,

Mr. Singh said: "Adhociśm

and arbitrariness and the will

to impose one's own deci-

party in the souther

Tamil Nadu and so

Year's Day.

supporters.

"We're working all out to

restore calm for our citizens, but our opponent is nature," said the visibly tired Nakasa-

Japan's Meteorological Agency reported a total of 256 aftershocks as of early

Wednesday squake, which measured 7.5 on the open-ended Richter scale, killed two people and badly damaged houses, roads and railway sites around Hachinohe. Some 30,000 households in the city were still without water Friday. Hachino a population of 420,0

ave to apply

it," Sharad

chief minister of

Maharashtra state, said after

Other ministers, plagued

by scandals, also resigned last

week, weakening Mr. Rao's

position slightly ahead of the

February elections that are

only a year away from the

central polls due in early

Mr. Rao, pressured by Mr.

Singh and the opposition, removed Health Minister B

Shankaranand and Junion

billion stock market scandal.

Mr. Singh's resignation.

national government to help tackle damage which city offi-cials predicted would exceed 17 billion yen (\$170 million). Police said the final casual-

The mayor asked the

ty toll from the quake was 285 people all but three of whom were in Hachinohe and outlying areas of Aomori prefecture. The two people killed in the quake died when a pachinko (pinball) parlour

collapsed. Seismologists said the earthquake was probably trig-gered by slippage of tectonic plates along the huge trench known as the "Japan Deep".

Rao ousts challenger from campaign committee

Several party leaders, while seeking disciplinary ac-Food Minister Kalpnath Rai, blamed in an official tion against Mr. Singh for speaking as ay the issues he ages devant. probe into a sugar import scandal, lost his job. The resignation of Civil Supplies Minister A.K. Antony, who also quit over the sugar scandal, has not yet been

> In his resignation letter, Mr. Singh criticised the current economic reform prog-ramme initiated by Mr. Rao

> "A perception has emerged that liberalisation of economic policy perhaps has become liberalisation of corruption," he wrote.

> Uttar Pradesh party chief Narain Dutt Tiwari said Mr. Rao should address himself "seriously" to the issues Mr. Singh raised: "What we need is a new look Congress Party," he said after Mr. Singh resigned.

"Major changes in the par-ty are due." Congress spokesman Ved Prakash told Rural Development Minister sions on partymen in various Rameshwar Thakur, both Reuters. "A reorganisation of the Congress (National) states has totally paralysed criticised by a parliamentary the initiatives that partymen. probe into a 1992 \$1.28-Committee is coming up." Mr. Rao told the Times Of take, and reduced the party

Spanish row over anti-ETA operations deepens

MADRID (R) — Spain's minority Socialist government faced growing pressure Friday to respond to allegations that it masterminded illicit operations against Basicity operations against Basicity operations against Basicity operations against Basicity operation and caused turnooil in nerwork function of former policemen who were convicted in 1991 of GAL convicted in 1991 o que guerrilla sympathisers in the 1980s.

The Justice and Interior Minister, Juan Alberto Bel-loch, told a special session of the parliamentary committee which monitors his department; "We must respect the judicail process and assume the innocence of those in-

But Antonio Romero of the United Left Movement calld Mr. Belloch's presentation to the committee "empty of content" and Popular Party spokesman Francisco Alvarez Cascos said the government had to explain what it knew about the situation.

The arrest last week of Julian Sancristobal, a former head of state security who is suspected of links with the shadowy anti-terrorist Liberation Group (GAL), blew up into a political storm that has provoked opposition calls for an early general election

to a state of inertia."

activities sought to implicate two ex-cabine of involvement. One of the ex-ministers, Jose Barrionuevo, who once held the interior portfolio, has said he will sue for libel.

Opposition parliamenta-rians said Finday that govern-ment reticence over GAL ment reticence over GAL could backfire on Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez. Mr. Belloch was obliged to appear in arliament only after the Socialists' Catalan allies in arliament insisted. "I can say to you, Mr. Belloch that if the judges condemin Sancristobal, it will be a paracal condemnation of Gonzalez," Mr. Alvarez Cascossind.

The probe into GAL, which tween 1983 and 1987 killed 2 killed people in a secret war on TA (Basque Home-land and Freedom), followed a serie of corruption scan-dals that have progressively weaked Mr. Gonzalez's 12-

year old premiership.
But Mr. Belloch, who as a Basque country judge in the 1980s was among those who most fiercely attacked GAL activities, denied the government was obstructing investigations and promised full cooperation within the con-straints of the law. "My task is to convince you this minis-

try will collaborate fully with judges. he said, recalling the case is before the courts.

He said say that in his opinion the published interviews with farmer Bilbao Police Chief, as a Amedo and ex-Inspeciar Miguel Dominguez were contradictory. But, he intradictory. But, he were contradictory. But, he added this was up to the judges to assess.

Mr. Conzalez, at a news conference Thursday, denied any government involvement in GAL activities. "Let this be one and for all clear, so as not in have to keep on insisting" he said.

His awords offered scant reassurance to financial mar-

reassurince to financial mar-kets Thirsday, though stock and the value of the peseta steadie Friday in what deal-ers called a technical reac-tion.

El Pais, in an editorial Fri-day, said Mr. Gonzalez had been convincing at the news conference, but added that he could be in danger of losing credibility in the eyes of the general public.

The political situation is so serious that many, and from diverse backgrounds, are surging early elections or the prime minister's resignation," it said.

Under these circumstances, it added that Mr. Gonzalez himself should appear in parliament to give a full

Opposition leader Jose Maria Aznar said Mr. Gonzalez had lost the capacity to govern and he urged that a general election be called within six months. But he again rejected a call for a motion of censure as it would

not prosper. Catalan leader Jordi Pujol, in a newspaper interview Thursday, said he was not withdrawing the parliamentary support of his Convergencia I Unio's 17 seats, which give the Socialists a one-seat majority in the lower house.

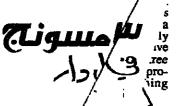
以会道:"人道 了人道 Thank You Thank You Thank You Merca Merci Merci Merci Gracias Gracias Gracias Gracias наибо спаибо спаибо спаибо ak Tak Tak Tak Tak kitos kitos kitos kitos takk takk takk takk tack tack tack tack HULL DING TEACH DING state state state Prisectal Pricela denk U dank U dank U obrigado obrigado obrigado благодаря благодаря köszönjük köszönjük dziękuję dziękuję dziękuję multumesc multumesc multumesc díky díky díky díky hvala hvala hvala

نقدم بالشكرا بحيل المواطن الاردني على دعتمه لنا خلال عتام ١٩٩٤ آملين أن يستمرهذا الدعثم في الاعوام القادمة

tesekkür ederim tesekkür ederim

الادارة العامة ، تلفون ١٣٢٢٩٠ شارع الجامعة





ورن تايمز يومية عربية سيامية مستكة تعمر بالاسطيزية عن المؤسمة المعطبة الأرمية

Chairman of the Board of Directors: MAHMOUD AL KÁYED

Director General:

MOHAMMAD AMAD Editor-in-Chief:

GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation, University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171/6, 670141-4

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO Facsimile: 696183

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Urban projects with care

HIS ROYAL Highness Crown Prince Hassan said it right. Any urban development project should focus first on its human dimension. These projects should provide people with homes that would cater for the needs of modern-day living, they should provide for shopping space, and they should include parks and playgrounds for adults and children.

It is unfortunate that most of our cities, including Amman, do not provide any of the required facilities to any satisfying degree.

More and more young Jordanians grow in need of new homes every year. The demand for housing is so strong that prices and rents are constantly going up. There are still so many extended families crammed under the same roof.

Decent urban housing projects are in dire need. More than a decade has passed since the building of a major housing project like that of : Abu Nusseir.

Meanwhile, the capital city is expanding rapidly and steadily, but, unfortunately, only westwards, eating up fertile land that most appropriately could be a major agricultural resource. Meanwhile, the authorities, the Amman Greater Municipality and other municipal councils in the Kingdom seem unable to control this expansion. Nor are they being able to provide proper services for many of the new shopping and residential areas that are changing the landscape of the country. Worst of all, the authorities seem unable, or unwilling, to solve problems that face the thousands of children who spend the day chasing their footballs in the streets to the shouts and hoots of angry drivers.

Amman, for example, has thousands of empty lots that could be used either for constructing apartment-buildings or children's playgrounds.

We suggest that the municipality that has for the last year been busy widening streets to cater for cars' needs to pay some attention to the genuine requirements of the thousands of children who are deprived of basic leisure and sport facilities, such as playgrounds and parks. These are an essential component of a decent urban life.

Furthermore, all these projects that the Amman municipality and other councils talk of should be debated before they are put into effect and before we wake up to the warnings of other blunders like that of the Ministry of Interior junction that cost millions of dinars and failed to meet its objective.

· Finally, more and more "urban" people should be involved in the planning and execution of civil projects to ensure a truly more urban, and healthy, environment for our children and

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

OWING TO pressure from Arab and Israeli protesters, e Israeli authorities have finally decided to call off the instruction of a settlement near Al Khader village near ethlehem on the occupied West Bank, said Al Ra'i Daily. appressing sastisfaction over the Israeli government's cision, the paper hoped that similar moves would be ade to deal with the scores of other Jewish settlements otting the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. All the Jewish ttlements set up on Arab land are illegal and have been ndemned by the world community, but it is regrettable at the successive Israeli governments resort to building ttlements in order to appease the extremist Zionists and n votes in the parliamentary elections, added the paper. ressing that the construction of Jewish settlements runs intrary to all peace agreements with the Arabs, the paper d that expansion of the existing settlements or the ation of new ones tend to undermine the peace process th the Palestinians. The paper said that the Israeli vernment ought to take corrective steps by reducing the esence of Jewish settlers on Arab lands and pulling aeli troops from occupied territories so as to pave the y for a lasting peace.

MMENTING on the daily carnage on the roads of dan, a columnist in Al Ra'i daily said that the present as concerning traffic seem unsatisfactory to stop the road dents or prevent reckless driving. Not only do these zi w millions of dinars in damaged property, said allow the heavy trucks and buses to race along the hways, causing one accident after another, but ail to stop reckless drivers or those vehicles which nous fumes which tend to pollute the atmoswriter further criticised the traffic police for the who stop their cars outside a drug store to (it to purchase urgent requirements for home A affic police tend to ignore those motorists madmen endangering the lives of other

Jordan Perspective

By Dr. Musa Kellani

¿aturi

Rescuing the image of Islam

THE HIJACK of an Air France airliner and the killing of four European priests in Algeria last week were the latest blows to Muslim efforts to repair the damaged image of Islam. Notwithstanding the diplomatic words of non-Muslim leaders from the West and East reflecting understanding of the fact that extremism is not an Islamic way of life, the reality remains that the average non-Muslim in the street would go by what he or she reads in the newspapers and see and hear on the electronic media. And it is an understatement that what the media projects today of Islam and Muslims is little close to the realines of what the Islamic faith advocates and what Islam stands for.

While one could not pinpoint the source of the sudden escalation of the phenomenon widely dubbed as Islamic extremism in the last three years, one could definitely look at the bombing of the World Trade Centre in New York and the alleged conspiracy charges against a dozen or more Arab Muslims in the U.S. as a major landmark in the efforts of enemies of Islam to portray the faith as espousing terrorism. The series of attacks carried out by Middle Eastern groups clearly aimed at undermining the Arab-Israeli peace process added vivid colours to the monsterous image that Islam acquired in the West. By and large, this image was and is also part of the weak Arab position in

peace negotiations with Israel. We in Jordan had seen it coming decades ago. All we have to do is to recall the words of our leadership and intellectuals in the latter half of the century. Everyone of them has been warning that frustration over the failure to secure their legitimate rights, whether in the Middle East or elsewhere, and the sense of social injustice coupled with squalid living conditions in many parts of the Muslim World were pushing Muslims towards extremism. But then, such a course of events was not limited to Muslims; it is a natural phenomenon that is applicable to every human being who finds his or her rights being trampled upon. social injustice perpetrated by the state and children being denied their basic rights to enough food to survive let alone education and proper health services.

Algeria can be described as a classic case where the people were denied any means to express their fury and

frustration for many pures. The system their did not allow much political participation on the part of the people except the pro-establishment groups. It was the accummulation of the frestration that we saw in the we called food riots in Algeria in 1988-89 Sarely, the intensity of the violence that we saw is Algeria reflected the Full-up singer of the people. Had there been any means of uginfrance for the Algerian people to express their sentiments and rejection of social ministics, then the strength of the woods from the Algerian streets that we beard would have been much more objective and balanced.

Indeed, political participation, in all senses of the words also means average for people to speak their mind and come together so correct the imbalances in the society. That is one of the major ratery valves for the survival of a country. It was the shortsuphredness of the regimes in Algeria and elsewhere where we find extremism maring its ugly head that has led so the present situation. Quite simply, had there been a large measure of personal freedoms and political phiralism in these countries, we would not have wronened the pumful despurable avents related to Algeria last week.

That does not, in any way, justify the path of extreminar and bloodshed adopted by harding Islamic groups in Algeria to pesh their quest forward. For one thing, it is clear that these groups are a minority when it comes to their advocacy to take up arms against the state, the votes that they garnered in the annuled elections in 1993 do not count for much if one were to interpret that as a sign that every one who cast has or her votes in support of the falamic Salvation Front (FIS) supports the bloody campaign waged by the group against the government. There votes only reflected the desire of the Algerian people for a change from the decades of injuspees they suffered. They hoped for that change in the Islamic ideology, which was and it very much indigenous and with which they were very familier. It was said to the twested manifestations of violence that is alien to that edeology that are strange to the Algerian society locay.

Indeed, there are many experts in the international political some who argue that the entire concept of political

Islam, as advocated by the Algerian FIS and other similar prosps elecuhere to the Arab World, would have shrunk altogether if only it was allowed a free fein for a few months. That is to say that, had the FIS been allowed to assume power in Algeria and given the freedom and, more significantly, the responsibility to correct the social injustices and address broad and butter usues in the country. then one would have seen the Algerian people clumouring for new elections in a very short span and the results of those elections would have been the end of group-advocating political Islam as the dominant political fives in the country. But then, it did not happen. Today, the Algorian people, and by extension, the Islamic World at large is paying the price, albeit in differing currencies and

What could we, in Jordan and elsewhere in the Muslim World who are pained by the forced twists given to our taith by extremist groups, do to correct the situation? We do hear heads of state and intelloctuals from all curners of the world making a clear distinction between Islam as a religion and the falamic groups that have adopted violence as a mount to achieve their political ends. But those words are not enough. We need to drive bome the point to the hearts and minds of the world that Islam is a creative force that propagates love, justice and equality for all people and that violence is alien to the faith.

For us in Jordan, having made peace with Israel after decades of bostilities, it is of paramount importance that the correct image of Islam is sent across the world. Given the limited material resources that we have, it might seem an impossible task. But the very fact that the Jordanian society and political system have among them strong and matured groups that base their approach on political Islam but believe in democracy and pluralism is the first and foremost asset that we have in assuming the role of a launching pad for a well-orthestrated and focused effort to spread the real awaress of Islam and what the faith stands for. It is our responsibility and obligation to ourselves to second the load, and make sacrifices if nocessary, in climinating the dark patches that cloud our lives as

Russia should remain strong, but not oppressive

By G.H. Jansen

PERHAPS THE striking feature of the turmoil stirred up by the Russian, or more correctly, Boris Yeltsin's, invasion of Chechenya is the way in which Russian opinion of the Chechens has swung over, in a matter of days, from being extremely critical and negative to being equally supportive and positive.

Until early this month "Chechen" was almost a term of abuse for Russians because, for the Russians. Chechens were, automatically, assumed to be crooks gangsters and crimi als. The Chechens had this evil reputation even before the collapse of the Soviet Union, but it became established after that collapse and with it the collapse of law and order and, almost, of civilised society in the maior cities of Russia, particularly of Moscow and St. Petersbuourg. So powerfui are the Chechens in the criminal underworld that when Greek Cypriot business started working in Moscow they found it necessary to set up their own gangs, recruited from the ones led by Chechens, to protect them from the regular mafia gangs of Chechens extorting protection money from the fore-

Hence when the White House rebellion collapsed in the summer of 1993 the Moscow police took advantage of the situation to clear up the city by massive de-portations of Chechen and Georgian criminals from the capital city who, needless to say, soon bribed their way back to their former haunts.

Hostility between Russians and Chechens is an old story because it took the



Russian empire almost the whole of the last century to impose its rule effectively on the peoples, including the Chechens, of the mountainous Caucasus region. The Murid Uprising led by the great hero Shamyl lasted from 1834-50 and there were numerous other uprisings; in 1865 no less than 40,000 Chechens went into exile in Turkey.

The Chechens were converted from Christianity to Islam in the 16th century and were and are devout Muslims of the Hanafi school of Sunni Islam. Sufi mysticism has always been popular in the Caucusus region and the Nakshabandi and Qadiri Tariqas or "brotherhoods", which have been particularly strong among the Chechens, provided the organised framework for the nationalist struggles.

Because of this background, Stalin, for no good reason, during World War II, when the Germans over-

e Cancusus, accused echess of being pro-German and deported them en masse to Kazakhistan in Central Asia and ethnic Russians were settled in the Chechen area. Hence. when in 1957 the Chechens were allowed to return to their republic, they had to replace Russian causing much ill will the persist all today.

According to the USSR collapsed, the USSR collapsed, collapsed, containing thousand declares.

Chechenya should declare itself independent under the leadership of General D. Dudayev. Mr. Yeltsin tolerated this act of defiance because Chechenya did not press its independence in any aggressive manner but a couple of months ago he seemed to have jost his patience with the Chechen people and has now sent his troops and armour and airforce to bring the Chechens to heel. Having learned nothing in Afghanistan of the power of

als of the Russian high command were hopelessly overoptimistic about their ability to crush the Chechens easily and quickly -- a couple of divisions could settle the matter in a few weeks time, ti

thought. e backed up by those ents in Russia who with increasing anares singed for a return to the mack of firm government. erms to which Russians are assessmed after centuries of rule by royal czars and then by many decades of rule by Communist czars. These are the elements that found their voice through V. Zhirinovsky who wants to restore the power and prestige of the old Soviet

But the old-style authoritarian Russian chanvinists are now opposed by the new, liberal and democratic forces released following the collapse of centralised power. The last thing these

"ចាមពិតម្

The generals are not standing up for the Chechens but for the principle that political dissent should not be crushed by force of arms. It is this principle that has been reneatedly reaffirmed by the Duma, the lower house of the Russian parliament.

can only be described as

Some generals are behaving in this independent fashion but there are other generals who are perfectly loyal and are obeying Mossow's commands and are endering the bombing and shelling of Chechen forces and of Chechen civilians.

It is, indeed, bitterly irome that the struggle for political plurality and democracy in Russia is being fought for and on behalf of people who, for the most part, are believed to be rascals and villians.

Whether it is the strength of the internal Russian criticism of the Checken adventure of the strength of criticism from Muslim governments abroad or the strength of armed Chechen resistance on the ground that caused it is not known. What is important for new is that Yeltsin has, for the time being, called off the attack on Grozny, the Chechen capital, which has been severely battered.

But this softening may not necessarily be a good thing, especially for the countries of the Third World because the Russians should remain strong and united to provide these countries with a balancing force against the one world power, the United States.

It is for Mr. Yeltsin, or some other ruler of the Russian Federation, to prove that Russia can remain strong and united without becoming an oppressive dictatorship.

Government policies to blame for rising cost of living this month. The writer said

by Elia Nasrallah COMMENTING ON the

reports of impending government reshuffle, a writer in Al Ra'i said Jordan requires a team of ministers capable of taking decisions to help their country overcome the difficulties facing it at the present and under the peace era. Qualified and efficient ministers could be made responsible for several ministries and indeed many of the present ministries could be run by higher councils like those which can take care of tourism, higher education and planning without a minister present, said Tareq Masarweh. The writer said that what the country needs now is a practical plan to achieve social justice and deal with the many ills that face the

Huda Fakhouri, a col-

umnist in Al Dustour, sup-

ported old pensioners' drive

to receive cost of living allo-

wances like their colleagues

who start their retirement

that the government, which imposes taxes on television. on citizens departing from the country and universities can impose a limited amount of tax to be dedicated to the old pensioners whose income does not cover the cost of their sustenance. She said that the retired servicemen and civil servants who had spent the prime of their life serving the country ought to be able to lead a decent life in their old age.
Shafiq Obeidat, a writer

for Sawt Al Shaab, tackled the issue of rising prices of various commodities, blaming the concerned authorities, especially the Ministry of Supply, for failing to control the situation. The merchants are not satisfied with a limited margin of profit and they sell even the basic commodities for exorbitant prices while the consumers are left at the their mercy without any interference on the part of the government to put matters

right, said the writer. He demanded that the government impose stricter control over prices and prged the consumers to avoid buying commodities whose prices are unusually high in a bid to force the merchants to bring them down and deter their greed.

Samir Naifeh, a columnist in Sawi Al Shaab daily, said that stores that seli auto spere parts are still selling their goods at the same old rates despite the government's decision to reduce the costoms duty on them. The merchants claim they had bought the goods

THE WEEK IN PRINT

Fand Al Fanek, a writer in Al Ra'i, criticated the government's newly introduced law on encouraging investments. He said that certified economic projects are allowed to be exempted from income tax customs duty and other taxes for many years, thus depriving the treasury of badly needed income. The witter said that under the previous regulations economic pro-jects were given two years during which they were ex-empted from suchtaxes but the new law allow them to extend the term to 12 ve is.

at higher prices and the customers have no alternative but to buy the parts for their broken-down cars. The writer demanded that the Ministry of Supply and customs departments inter-elere and put an end to profiteering and manipulations, especially as cars are indispensable for citizens in their daily life.

Despite the assurances of the minister of mance and the Central Bank rovernor about the sound financial and monetary stuation, Jordanians have sarted to

feel that the value of the Jordanian dinar is on the decline, said Taher Adwan. a columnist in Al Dustour. The writer said that the financial market is in had situation, reflecting the real poor economic performance of the country while the Jordanian dinar is losing its value gradually as is clearly seen in the continued rise in the price of various commodities and the rate of exchange of foreign currency against the dinar, said the writer.

return to modernised czar-

people, the now uncen-

sored Russian media, the

parliament and, above all,

the Russian army are

opposed to the incursion

into Chechenya. Recent

public opinion polls show

that in fact a majority of

Russians disapprove of Mr.

Yeltsin's plunge into Chechenya. These Russians

feel that although the

Chechens are raseals they

are independent minded

rescals, and the fear is that

if they are suppressed by

force it will be the turn next

of other independent-

minded elements in Russian

So strong and widespread

is this fear of neo-courism

that it has even "infected"

the higher ranks of the Red

Army. In the past few

weeks generals of regular

units of that formidable

force flatly and publicly re-

fused to obey orders. That

society.

This is why the younger

The writer said that Parliament should examine the economic situation in depth and should revise all the government's policies with a view to reforming the national economy.

Hamadeh Faraanch, a columnist in Al Dustour. said Islam does not diffe. rentiate between the monotheistic religions or the prophets in whom Mus. lims believe. He demanded that the government announced official holidays on Christmas day and

new year in a show of te-spect of the Christian faith. Celebrating the Christian feasts by Muslims as well as Christians, he added, would only help to enhance the national units.
Mohammad Brahim

Daoud, a columnst in Al Dustour, said that the goverament had given promises to apply a comprehensive health insurance scheme covering all citizens, to deal with unemployment and also reduce poverty. He said that the government is in need of carefully selected and effitient cadies of employees to deal with these pones and so keep its promises. The government acres to put the right person in the cight position and charge a wifty with certain special starts that can hancile melt chies me pours and remove the country of heavy building Indeed, we are in need of a terolutionary movement in the public administration [Wilcom in instee a.

. 2.

CEMBER 31, 1994

firsa Keilani

the analysther similar we would be to share the few of the control of the control

appear field the

Seeke state, while the

to the second to the second

Steer Silvers of

Carry to I to make a

and the first to leave

The three walls

The force

the the favor is the

is to the land in the

the the

No. of High

hi ven canan

is the strong and

i di di kian

and

1 c of 3

The state of the

eth stads

The transportation of

er establish

land on the g

or New

· . W

:::

1

ĕ

:-. J..

3

F-8.481 - -

IVe



Established Sovietera immigrants balk at newcomers

By Doina Chiacu The Associated Press

NEW YORK - Before communism crumbled, immigrants from the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe flocked to the United States for freedom and democracy. Today they come for some-

thing else.
"Now you have people who just want to get rich. It doesn't matter how," said Ena Ghyka of Arlington. VA., who fled Romania in.

"It's a different breed. completely different," said Irene Nikitin, 71, of San Francisco, a World War II refugee from Kiev.

The latest wave of immigrants from Russia and its former satellites is getting a chilly reception from some of those who came before.

Communist-era refugees were escaping political or religious persecution, which gave their immigrant status a martyr-like glow, they see the newcomers as everything from rude to morally bankrupt, lured to the United States by videocassette recorders and fast cars. And they hold the Iron Curtain re-

The people on top of the social pyramid were stealing - there was no morality. Everybody was stealing, everybody was cheeting. The vears it became a habit, built into their nervous system," said Andrew Kawecki, 58, a staff writer for the Polish

Daily News in Chicago. Mr. Kawecki said he had the same "bad habits" to break when he came from Poland 20 years ago, but it may be harder for those who lived that way longer.

"Some newcomers are cheating everyone from IRS to friends." Mr. Kawecki said, referring to the Internal Revenue Service, the U.S. obey the rules. ... They are destroyed from the inside. "Beach have become so identiAnd it's not their fault. It's fied with crime, particularly listing organised kind, that tax agency, "They wouldn't

Newcomers don't deny a communist society left a

mark on its people. "We were as blind cats in former Soviet Union because we believed in communism and other things," said Lyba Mikityanskaya, who arrived from Ukraine last year. "Now we come to this coun-

try and we see we were wrong.' But they point out that life has gotten harder in the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, with anti-

semitism, crime and ethnic clashes on the rise. "People who are coming now are much more like refugees, escaping a war zone," said Vladimir Vishnevskiy,

years ago. "People who came before were like prisoners escaping prison." Yes, they long for a better life, he said. And why

36, who came from Russia 30

shouldn't they? Friction between the old guard and newcomers is nothing new in this country of immigrants, said Arthur Helton, director of migration Russians bog down around Grozny

(Continued from page 1)

out a responsible and danger-

"Everyone will be thinking about you this New Year,"

he said from the Kremlin in

Russians have seut

planeloads of presents to

troops in Chechenya for New

Year, traditionally the big-

Dozens of Russian soldiers

are among the many victims

of the fighting so far. There are no reliable figures from

either side but reporters in

Grozny say Chechen casual-

ties there are high, hospitals

are full of injured civilians

gest holiday in Moscow.

ous combat duty," TASS quoted Mr. Yeltsin as saying.

NAIROBI - The appointment of Africa's first woman vice-president has focused attention on why so few Afri-

programmes at the Open Society Institute. Those who settled on the lower east side of Manhattan at the turn of the century. For example, were "reviled and demonised" by other Americans, including those who came before, he said.

ly no knowledge of that kind

of system," said Pauline Bilus, head of Action for

Russian Immigrants. A reset-

tleement programme in

Brighton Beach in the New

York city borough of Brook-

about a 70- to 75-year gap -

or what I call a black hole -

of people who have lived

under this totalitarian sys-

So dismal that many peo-

Immigration to the United

Soviet republics alone went

In Brighton Beach, a

boardwalk community of up

to 60,000 Russian immig-

rants. "Nyet" is more com-

mon than "No" on the streets

and many stores use the

Ms. Bilus says tensions be-

tween immigrants are nor-

mal: "People will always look

down on the new kid on the

established immigrants in the

New York area formed a

group to protect Russian

speakers from discrimina-

avoid each other.

up the pieces.

tion Service.

Cyrillic alphabet.

block.'

tion.

"We're talking primarily

September and the fifth Afri-But a fierce ideological can Regional Conference on Women in Senegal last conflict, now as dead as the cold war and the "evil month - put women's liberaempire," makes this situation tion and empowerment at the forefront of their concerns. unique in recent immigrant But both took place on the "It's a difference between world's poorest continent, where half its population as people who are brought up women are stifled by cultural under a totalitarian, communist, payernalistic system and those who have absoluteand sexual taboos. No one

provoke rapid change. Women politicians in Africa have to fight prejudices in society and an environment not conducive to success," said Maria Nzomo. a Nairobi University senior

expects the conferences to

By Nanna Mwaluko

can women enter politics and

only a much smaller minority

Two recent international

meetings — the U.N. Popula-

tion Conference in Cairo in

Reuter

reach high office.

lecturer in political-science. The idea that women are less capable has long been in

society. They face also in-creasingly more hardship as they lack enough funds," she said noting that traditionally African women are barred from owning property.

Beset by poversy — sub-

world's highest number of people under the international poverty line - women are well aware of the host of hurdles to a political life. Many say they are forced to toe the party line of their male opposite numbers who

merely token leaders. .. On being named, Uganda's Ande Wandira Kazibwe said vomen in Uganda should know that privileges accorded to us by govern ment will have to go with responsibilities... I am ready

In a report to the assembly

earlier this year, the United

Nations said the only way to

stop the devastation created

by the maneston 110 million land mines may scattered throughout a comprise is to

"Land mines may be one of the most widespread,

lethal, and long lasting forms

of pollution we have yet en-

countered, and we are cur-

rently losing the battle to

protect innocent civilians

from their effects," the re-

creases in demining/efforts

worldwide and foreseeable

advances in technology, it

will be impossible to solve the

global land mine problem un-

less their proliferation is

The best and most effec-

"Even with significant in-

port said.

compries is to

DONS.

to show my worth."

wheel and deal in the political

arena while women take a

socially accepted backseat as

Saharan Africa has the

Ms. Kazibwe retained her

previous position of minister of ender (women's) community development, a rare position in Africa.

African women's hard, dangerous life in politics

tators in Uganda's capital Kampala praised President weri Museveni's decision appoint Ms. Kazibwe, lying he had sewn up the omen's vote for elections next year. "At campaigns, women are

eered at and depicted as rustrated divorcees in polistics as a last resort. African women don't like to vote or study politics," said politics student Mary Mwangi.

"Men feel you will steal the political spotlight and because we are so few they throw mud and slander us, said Agnes Ndetei, a parliamentarian and the foremost woman in Kenya's opposi-

"But none of us have defected (to the ruling Kanu Party) because we believe in what we are doing,"

Lip service to equality is increasingly paid by leaders in Africa because of increased solidarity among women demanding a greater say in the continent, but gains

are few and far between. Tanzania's founding President Julius Nyerere was embarrassed this month as chairman of a two-day conference in Nairobi on Africa's political and economic agenda for the year 2000 when a woman complained to him about the handful of women present.

Conference organisers, asked by Mr. Nyerere to explain, said more women had been invited but many had

Women's development and progress in politics received a hard blow in April with the killing of Rwanda's Prime Minister Agathe Uwilingiyimana, who fought for ethnic repression and an end to women's oppression in the tiny central African state. Ms. Uwilingiyimana, 41,

entered politics in 1992 shortly after then president Juvenal Habyarimana bowed to the wind of change sweeping across Africa and allowed

multi-party politics. A dynamic, shrewd woman who preached tribal tolerance in a nation where ethnic allegiance is seen as all-important, she led a tough fight against women being dected as the weak sex who should be shunted out of public service.

At a political rally in the capital Kigali, Mr. Habyarimana singled out his prime minister by shouting: "You, woman'

Ms. Uwilingiyimana stood and replied: "Don't call me that. I am not your wife." Only the second African woman to serve as a prime minister, Ms. Uwilingiyimana was slaughtered by members of the presidential guard on April 6 despite being under the escort of U.N.

bath that followed the assassination of Mr. Habvarimana killed up to one million peo-

ple across Rwanda. In neighbouring Burundi, Sylvie Kinigi was appointed prime minister only on the eve of the killing of President Melchior Ndadaye by renegade Tutsi troops in Octo-

ber last year. Diplomats said she reluctantly accepted the post as she had felt she could achieve more by remaining the civil service head in charge of economic planning in the prime

minister's office. An elegant, soft-spoken but straight-talking 41-year-old, Ms. Kinigi abandoned her political life when her cabinet collapsed last February and now works for

Burundi's Commercial Bank. 'I am not outside of politics but I have left the political scene," Mr. Kinigi, a now largely sidelined campaigner for tolerance in a country almost boiling with the oppo-

site, told Reuters.

guards. The three-month blood-

By Judy Aita

UNITED NATIONS — The U.N. General Assembly on Dec. 15 renewed its call for a tem. This great experiment moratorium on the export of that became a dismal faianti-personnel land mines and supported efforts now underway to strengthen the ple didn't want to stay to pick international protocols which

Adopting a non-binding regovern their use. States from the region has solution without a vote, the assembly renewed the called increased sharply since the Iron Curtain rose. Immigmade last year for states rants admitted from former declare moratoriums at earliest possible date. In the past year over 10 states have from 11.100 in 1989 to 58,500 in 1993, According to the Immigration and Naturalisastopped exporting antipersonnel mines. One of these states, Italy, was one of

the world's largest exporters. In 1992 the United States began a unilateral moratorium on exporting mines. But U.S. production is minuscule. Despite a 1980 international treaty restricting the use of land mines, some 35 countries still manufacture and export them. The leaders, according to the U.N.

have been China, Russia and Italy.

ban completely the production, use and transfer of all land mines. Member states are invited to consider estab-

lishing such a ban as a matter

of urgency." During the assembly's first committee debate on land mines, U.S. Senator Patrick Leahy said "every 15 minutes of every day, of every week, of every month, of every year that we delay, another person falls victim to a land mme. In the past 12 months alone, -approximately two million more land mines have been laid. But during that same

period in every country represented here, the number of people demanding an end to this senseless slaughter has continued to grow."

Mr. Leahy, a member of the U.S. delegation to the Congress and the United Nations efforts to get a worldwide moratorium on the ex-

port of land mines. Mr. Leahy said the resolution puts all countries on record in support of the eventual elimination of these weapons. "This is a major step forward. It should end the debate about the need for the goal of the eventual elimination of anti-personnel

land mines," he said. In a second resolution, also adopted by consensus, the assembly supported the conference which will convene in September 1995 to review the 1980 Conventional Weapons Treaty in order to strengthen the protocol on land mines. A special meeting of experts will be held in January to begin planning for the review

moves to eliminate land mines known as the "Convention each year. on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or

to Have Indiscriminate Effects," and a related protocol on the use of mines, booby traps and other devices, entered into force in December 1983. They ban the use of land mines against civilians, forbid the planting of mines by planes unless records are kept on where they are sown and require

nations have ratified the treaty and its protocols. In its resolution the assem bly called on states to become parties to the convention and its protocols and called on the

maximum number of states to

records be kept on all mine

placement. However, only 36

Of all the debris left after a conflict, land mines are the most widespread and pernicious, the U.N. says. In addition to the estimated 110 million that already exist, it says that between 2 and 5 million more are being laid

According to the U.N., the countries most affected are: Afghanistan with 9 to 10 million mines; Angola with nine to 15 million mines; Iraq with five to 10 million; Kuwait with five million; Cambodia with eight to 10 million; Western Sahara with one to two million; Mozambique with one to two million; and

Somalia, Bosnia and Croatia with one million mines each. The U.N. says that other countries with lands mines include Armenia, Azerbai-jan, Colombia, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Georgia, Guatemala, Honduras, Iran, Laos, Liberia, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Peru, Rwanda, Sudan, Uganda, Vietnam and Ye men. Australia and Antarctica are perhaps the only con-

years and that there would be

overwhelming violence and

that when we would be in the

country we would be in dan

ger. One thought of libera-

tion as kind of walking in and

having change immediately."

the reasons she was looking

forward to going to Paris was

because the media there were

not obsessed with "piffle and

grace the way people's pri-

"I think it's an utter dis-

sleaze."

Ms. Masekela said one of

tive way to achieve this is to spearheaded in both the U.S. The treaty, officially attend the review conference. tin The treaty, officially ... attend the review conference. tinents free of mine fields.

U.N. General Assembly supports

By Sanja Gohre Reuter

In Ms. Ghyka's Romanian JOHANNESBURG – ine circle, the newcomers and established emigres tend to first ambassador of the new South Africa to Paris is a poet, the sister of a famous "We're different, it's a bigjazz trumpter and an unabashed fan of Nelson Man-

-

differnce in mentality, and in values," she said. "For this dela. reason, the Romanians try Barbara Masekela, 53, also not to be in contact with feels strongly about the fact other Romanians." that she is the only woman Sven Zabelin of San Fran-

among the first 16 ambadors named by Mandagovernment this month cisco, who has helped fellow Russian speakers settle in the area, has a more detached "South Africa is full view of their situation. talented women... they be found and they must be found. It does not fit image as a democratic co "People take two generations to arrive at some kind of — if I can call it a normal society," said Mr. Zabelin, try not to have women in

71, who was born in Croatia these positions," she said in to Russian parents and left in an interview. 1947. "It will take time to get "It's incumbent on the govrid of the whole pervasive ernment to find them.' influence of hte party. It will-Ms. Masekela, who takes take time to clean all that up up her post on Jan. 1, points - for the Romanians, Bulgaout that she and other promrians, Polese, Czechs, Sloinent figures in Mandela's vaks - that's why they are ruling African National Congoing through such pains."

amilies. "That reminds us of who we are... my brother and I always wanted to remember that so that we couldn't lose

ourselves. We always knew we would come back. And when we came home we would work towards the improvement of our society

Both Barbara Masekela and her musician brother Hugh went into exile in their youth because of apartheid. "There was a hardening of

the apartheid regime... It was very clear that opportunities were beginning to narrow and anybody opposed to apartheid was in danger. One had to choose tind opposite where etc. some-

She in was blandela when she is such to get for the ANC in a capital and was asked to help prepare for a visit he made to the United States after his release from jail in February, 1990. Mr. Mandela, clearly impressed, asked her to become

his personal assistant.
"You can't imagine what it was like for me with our president," she said. "It almost seemed as though gress (ANC) came from poor there was no problem that was too large for him to tackle and that he has always been able to emerge out of any situation with great digni-



Nelson Mandela

Apart from raising funds and building cultural relations with France, she hopes to build South Africa's relatronship with French-speaking African countries. I think it is utterly disgraceful that we are on the continent and know so little and do so little with the other Africans who speak French on the continent," she said. "It is my task to bring investment to South Africa.

can tell them about the plight would come here for four of my people. "I hope that I can let peo-

ple in France understand and appreciate the diversity of the culture of South Africa and that we actually have a new democratic culture emerg-

ing...
If I can demonstrate the humanity of my president, the caring of my president and the wisdom of his leadership, then I will become a good diplomat."

Ms. Masekela lived the first 10 years of her life with her grandmother, who had married a white man, in the eastern Transvaal mining town of Witbank. She then moved to her parents in Alexandra township outside Iohannesburg.

"My granny was a great influence on me. She was the original independent woman.

During her 27 years in exile Ms. Masekela lived in Ghana, Britain, Zambia and the United States. Asked about her feelings on returning home, she said:

"We dreamed about how it would be. But reality is quite different... "We didn't know that we

vate lives are paraded in front of the press... "Really what's important about me, about you, is what do we bring to the lives of

other people in this society, how do we contribute to uplifting our people." "I'm glad I'm going to France actually, because in France you don't have that

kind of focus." She said her poetry was inspired by her private feel-

ings but she had yet to publish any.

"One day I will when I have the time. I have been saying that for many years. I haven't had time to focus on

What alternative to abolishing homework? "Those who are impatiently awaiting your return and who will raise their glass to you this New Year's Eve are depending on you for a peaceful and calm 1995," he By Joe Pisani housework should be shared. workaday world, such as homework a night. adult supervision on social The furor began when Gardamental inequity between IS NOTHING sacred in evading responsibility, cut-What country is this?

America? Homework was once a halllowed tradition was quoted as saying in an address released by his press ranking right up there with detention, fraternity, hazing and income tax. It was a milestone in the development of Western civilisation, one of the few remaining ways to inflict pain on youngsters. "I am sure the people of inflict pain on youngsters.

Moreover, homework
teaches kids skills they'll
need to succeed in the real

ting corners and plagiarism. Yet in California an outspoken school board member spoken school board memoer has come up with a plan to abolish homework, which begs the question: is he getting paid off in baby-sitting dollars? Baining homework has taken on the intensity of other historic social ideals such as taxation without representation in the presentation.

resentation is tyranny, and

rett Redmond, a trustee with the Cabrillo Unified School District, introduced a proposal in Half Moon Bay, California, to abolish homework because: it puts an unbearable strain on family life; it is unjust, and it wastes too much time. Also, it destroys home life and favours students whose parents are smart enough to do it for

poor students and well-to-do students, who can tap into the Internet and CD-ROMs. Finally, it's a financial burden on the taxpayer, because textbooks get worn out by being carried back and forth to school. Did I forget anything?

Mr. Redmond, who be-longs to a five-member school board that oversees the education system for 3,500 students in a district stretching 22 kilometres along the coast south of San Francisco, wasn't joking. His proposal has provoked discussion among students, parents and teachers — not to mention academics, who are never at a loss for an opinion

on any topic. In reality, homework is rarely taken seriously by teachers, parents or students. Every kid I know, including four in my own family, is clamouring to be represented on the local school board so they can draft initiatives to end homework once and for

complete up to six hours'

Japan? The former Soviet Union? According to the president of the school board, the district's 3,500 students spend some 10,000 hours every night doing homework.

"That's a lot of hours," he

concluded sagely.

Mr. Redmond said his daughter, who was valedictorian of her eighth-grade class last year, usually spends five hours a night on homework, and those are hours he'd rather she spent with him, even if it means watching TV together.

After all, watching Mel-rose Place or Married... With Children will give kids an education they'll never get in the classroom.

Do young people, who already watch dozens of hours of TV a week, need more time to watch even more TV? Did Mr. Redmond ever consider giving up some of his TV time to help his daughter with her homework? Helping our children with spelling and arithmetic is about the only interaction some of us have, however

Don't you love providing The Greenwich Time

studies and science projects? I can still remember the time my dad helped me build a wind tunnel for the eighthgrade science fair. In a feivent father-son cooperative effort, we almost burned the house down.

When it comes to homework, there are two extremes: parents who don't care what their kids do, and parents who do the assignments themselves. Parental assistance can be seen when a second-grader's composition on her summer vacation comes back written in compoundcomplex sentences, or when a ninth-grader's algebra assignment comes back entirely WYORG.

On the other hand, maybe the California proposition deserves serious study.

Banning homework might

help overworked and underpaid parents, who are tired of doing their kids' assignments after a day of dealing with a snarling boss or unruly spouse. It might even give them some additional free time, time that could be profitably spent... watching NYPD Blue.

Russia to go ahead with oil export reform plan

MOSCOW (R) — Russia will go ahead with a plan to reform its oil export system that has drawn sharp criticism from the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF), Deputy Prime Minis-

ter Oleg Davydov has said. ITAR-TASS news agency quoted Mr. Davydov as saying export quotas and licences would be scrapped and replaced with a system of compulsory deliveries to

domestic consumers. The plan to introduce compulsory domestic deliveries, aimed at preventing a stampede to more lucrative export ters. markets, has been denounced

and short of drugs.

Mr. Yeltsin said the campaign would lead to a safer,

Chechenya will see the im-

portance of what you are

doing, in the name of pre-

serving the homeland, the united and indivisible Rus-

sia," Mr. Yeltsin was quoted

more peaceful Russia.

carnings.
The international lending agencies have linked oil export liberalisation to future credits, vital not only for rehabiliating the oil sector but also for budget financing.

TASS also quoted Mr. Davydov as saying the number of "special exporters", or companies authorised to export oil, would be reduced to 12 from the present 14. The World Bank has called for the abolition of special expor-

Mr. Davydov said the new

export system, the to take effect on Jan. I would probably be approved by the government in the coming days. Anatoly Sivas head of the big Sidanko a conglomerate, said earlier that no final decision had been taken on the proposals.

Under the proposals, companies would have to meet domestic subly requirements before being granted export right.

TASS said decision had been taken it illocate 60 per cent of Russian crude oil output for somestic consumption in the first quarter.

Export patient at about 78 million touns.

The remaining 40 per cent may be exported without quotas, entier to former Soviet republics or to other countries. But exports will continue to be restricted by lack of pipeline capacity.

Russian crude exports outside the former Soviet Union are expected to be 85-90 million tounses it 1994, up from about 80 million tounses at 1994, up from about 80 million tounses at 100-120 million tounses, but most

ministry has forecast first quarter output at about 78 million tout.

The remaining 40 per cent may be exported without quotas, etter to former soviet republics or to other countries. But exports will continue to be restricted by lack of pipeline capacity.

spare capacity is on the Druzhba line to eastern Europe where demand has slumped.

TASS said next year's 12

special exporters will include seven oil companies and five big trading firms. It gave no Mr. Sivak said the proposed new export system, aimed at preventing a stampede to more lucrative export

markets, might function well

if it was applied fairly and

producers were allowed to

export equal percentages of

their total output.

I was therefore astounded by the Half Moon Bay horror stories of students slaving to

Economy

Dollar set for rollercoaster ride in 1995

LONDON (R) — Investors may be able to breathe a sign of relief now the dollar is finally clawing its way higher. but the upturn is only likely to last until the summer, financial analysts said Friday.

They had yet to dot the "I's" and cross the "t's" on forecasts for next year but in the main saw a Deutschemark upturn in the second half of 1995 putting paid to the dollar rally.

'Further Federal Reserve tightening in the first half of next year means the dollar will remain strong but in the second half other countries, Germany in particular, will star to tighten," said James Montier, economist at Kleinwort Benson.

The U.S. currency rode out 1994 on a subdued note, suffering an unexpected blow from political and economic problems in southerly neighbour Mexico.

The threat of dollars flooding the market if Mexico moved to support a recently devalued peso led to a sud-den end-of-the-year dollar slide. The United States has extended a \$6 billion line of credit to Mexico and there were market fears this had already begun to be drawn down, although the U.S. Treasury denied this.

In any event, the dollar fall has been in the thinnest of markets, and analysts said that come the new year the mood would brighten again for the U.S. unit.

"I don't think it's indicarive of how it's going to be for the rest of the year," said Dudley Rouse, a director at American Express Bank in London. "The dollar is still

The Federal Reserve (Fed) is expected to tighten monetary policy by 0.50 or 0.75 percentage point at the next two-day meeting of the Federal Open Market Committee at the end of the Janu-

While this would widen the yield differential between the U.S. and Germany further. there will come a time when the Bundesbank decides to do an about-face on monetary policy following its gradual easing since the second half of 1992.

"A move by the Bundesbank to tighten policy, at a time when the Fed may be moving in the opposite direction, should bolster confidence in the mark." said Mark Cliffe, chief international economist at Midland Global Markets Research. Also the mark will be one

and external deficits in the United States but these could easily become a focus later in

eback against the ven will

The dollar's year-end com-

buying later next vest to :

tical and economic prof.

continue elsewhere, and is

firm tone versus other Eut -

pean currencies will help .:

European currencies the

mark is really the only send

Montier said. He noted that

political werries in France

Britain, Italy and Spain wil.

take their toll and in Scandi-

navia deht problems will con-

tinue to drag on the Swedish

the market was currently

ignoring the hure internal

Analysts also nuted that

and Norwegian crowns.

"Looking at the other

rise against the dollar.

also extend anto 1995 but game are likely in balamited. trade distrate will liner as a major concern in the foreign exchange market but will not य संख्या के लाभके लाभ के ब्राह्म क्ष did this year, they added

The deciter could rue to around 101 year and possibly 10 105 m the first quarter of next year," said Manamichi Yavuda, chief dealer at Bank of Tokyo. He said that although there were right Japan's hope trade surples was shranking, it was too ext-it to judge wether it would innt mate a long-term trend

The dollar was ending 1994 around 1 550) marks and 49.50 year down around 11 per cent, but it had been mer. In October it touched in mough at around 1 4850 marks and 96.133 year, around '4 per cent down on the year.

Big powers complete new trade body launch

GENEVA (R) - The Usited States, the European Union and Canada joined Priday in a symbolic ceremony cleaning the way for he annch of last 1 of the new World Trade Organisation (WTO)

To champages tosses, en-ways of the three big trading powers, including officials of the !? current EU councies, handed over documents con-firming their restlication of the international trusty that sets up the WTO.

The formal act meant that all four members of the "quad" group that dominates the world trading scene were on board for the WTO launch. Japan delivered its ratification instruments on Toesday, carber than the

Others for "technical

This is a historic occasion for the United States and for the other countries that have accepted the agreement,"
U.S. acting chief of mission
to the General Agreement on
Tariffs and Trade (GATT) Andrew Stoler, rold Reuters.

"It is a great achievement that together with the United States and Canada we could ratify and then deposit the ratification instruments together shead of Jan. 1." said Jean-Pierre Leng, the European Union's ambassa-

In a mossage from Spain where he is on boliday, GATT chief Peter Sutherland who becomes interim head of the WTO, said the fact that at least 85 countries had now ratified or accepted the accord was "a marvellous start" for the new body.

These accounted for the vast bulk of world trade. "It is a very good omen for the future," he declared. GATT currently has 125 members, and eventually some 145 are expected to come into the

new organisation.
The WTO is the centrepiece of the world trade treaty negotiated over seven yours in GATT's Uniquely Round. It cuts tariffs by an average of more than one third and opens markets for services, farm produce and

Over the coming year, it will absorb GATT, which has lasted 46 years as a "tempor-ary body" because of the big traders' failure in the late 1940s to agree on a more powerful body.

Both Mr. Stoler and Mr. long said they believed trade conflicts between Washingless likely in the Wallathough difficulties will in GATT have brough the on occasion to the business.

trade wars -- would remain "Many of the trad" tants that characterised the U.S.-EU relationship Jurin. the 1980s resulted from me perfect rules that wellviewed differently by the sides," said Mr. Stoler

With the new treats in added, and specially in the area of farming subsidies which were at the centre of many disputes," I think we have a better set of rules and a shared understanding of what the rules are."

Both expressed disappoint ment that there had been me agreement before the new year on a permanent head for the new body. "It is certainly a failure on the part of posteraments that they could not reach a consensus for Jan. 1. said Mr. Long.

But the two envoys undicated they stood firmly behind their rival candidates for the post - Italy's ex-Trade Minister Renato Ruggiero for the EU and former Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari for the United States and Latin America.

in CATT member head count, Mr. Ruggiero is well ahead, followed by South Korea's former Trade Minister Kim Chul-Su -- who has the backing of Asian and Pacific region states.

"It is true that we have three good candidates," said Mr. Stoler, "but I think that President Salinas who (stepped down as Mexicu's head of state on Dec. 1) has demonstrated in a real-life environment his commitment to liberal trading regime."

Israel boosts defence spending in 1995

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — The Israeli parliament Friday approved a \$49 billion budget for 1995 which included a 7.9 per cent increase in defence spending, officials said.

Defence spending was increased to \$8.3 billion or 17.8 per cent of the total budget, and includes \$1.8 billion in U.S. military aid.

The budget was adopted by 58 votes for compared with 41 against.

Five deputies from the Communist Party and the Arab Democratic Party voted against, to protest the small amount of public aid for the 800,000 Arab minority and 70,000 Druze.

Funding for the internal security service Shin Beth and the Mossad intelligence service is not included in defence spending and is to remain unchanged, at about \$350 million.

The Treasury has forecast a budget deficit of \$3.3 billion lower unemployment to that

next year, or 2.75 per cent of the Gross National Product (GNP), compared with three

per cent in 1994. Spending on integrating new immigrants will remain fixed at \$3.8 billion, even though 70,000 people are expected to arrive in Israel mainly from the new republics of the former Soviet Union, according to the Treas-

Investment in infrastructure, especially roads, will go up to a record \$3.5 billion.

The Israeli economy roared ahead in 1994 as the Gross Domestic Product (GNP) jumped 6.8 per cent to push the annual per capita income to \$13,730, the General Bureau of Statistics has announced.

In its year-end estimates for 1994, the bureau favourably compared Israel's economic performance as measured by GDP growth and

of the Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) coun-

The comparison also highlighted the country's inflation and trade deficit problems. The nation's economy expanded faster than all 24 OECD countries. Israel also

leads OECD countries with a 4.3% rise in GDP per capita. Unemployment, which fell from 10% last year to 7.6% this year, ranked Israel ninth among OECD countries with

the lowest jobless rates. By contrast, Israel had the highest trade deficit and second highest inflation rate in the group. The deficit jumped from 2.4% of GDP to 4.1%. Similarly, consumer inflation, which totalled 12.3% this year, was second only to Turkey's 106% annual inflation rate.

Israel's per capita income last year of \$12,375 was lower than Japan's \$33,900, the U.S.'s \$24,300, France's \$21,700, and England's \$15,900, but was higher than Spain's \$12,200

Most of the economy's expansion occurred in the second half of last year. During the first half of the year the GDP grew 5%, expanding at a more moderate 4% in the second half of the year

The business product, which measures the GDP, excluding public and housing services, jumped 7.9% from 3.5%. The expansion reflects 8% industrial production growth and a 7.2% increase in the building sector. Trade and services surged 9%. while agriculture shrank 4%.

Although business leaders have been complaining about eroding profitability, private sector labour productivity actually increased this year by 0.2%, after dropping in the previous two years. Only when the public sector is included, productivity remaned unchanged

Syria exporting 360,000 b/d of crude oil

DAMASCUS (R) - Syna m exporting around 360,000 barrols per day (bid) of crude oil c' an exampsed deily productions of 600,000 bid, Oil Minister Nather Nabulas has

The measurer used oil rerenue was proming the country with between 68 and 70 per cent of its limitation on the carried around 17 per cent of 5yrs is gross doesn't product, which amounted to 520 bihop last your

Addressing parliament, the manufer said Syna had to in perspect over 338 milion topped of crede oil from its celificide all over the country. A copy of his address, debtered this week, was

obtained by Reuters Friday. Mr. Nabula said surveys showed there were 823 uses क्षोत्रके क्राइकें केश्नर दावर्वर वर्ध वर Syma. About 285 of them were drilled and oil was found at 122. The ammer, who began

bus canoci as an oil engineer at the Syrian Petroleum Company in the late 1960s and their washed in the Unseed States, said that more then 2,650 wells were delied. He said Sima first found oil

m 1957 at the Karachouk field, in the far northeast of the country close to the Turkish border Syria exported the first oil in 1968. Producon during that year was (20,000 ha).

Syna's oil output, which was all heavy crude at that time, reached a post of 11 million tonnes (220,000 b/d) m 1976, but production begun to decline starting from that year, the minister said.

He sand production of the beary crude west down to around right million tonges (160,000 bd) in 1978 and photonical at the same rate now.

Sight crude was first prowhich were discovered at the Days Azzaws area, close to the Iraqi border. The oil is one of the best in the world, the minister said.

About 460,000 b/d are now being produced from 22 oilfields in the area by the Al Farat Company, 50 per cent owned by Sria's petroleum company, 18.75 per cent by Germany's Deminex, 15.625 per cent by Pecten (U.S. Shell) and 15.625 by Syria Shell (Royal Dutch Shell).

He said that out of 22 murautunal compenses, who explored for oil in Stria during the 1980s, four found oil and the others left the country. Those who left spent \$600 million.

Mr. Nahulsi said Syria was also producing around 6.36 million cubic meter (226.6 million cubic feet) per day of gaz from three gas treatment plants.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1994 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: With the Sun and Moon in Capricom tracing Marx you are under good aspects to handle practical obligations as the year wands down to a positive close which in many ways is better than you expected

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) it is best to be with good friends and not get involved with others. Any public tasks will not turn our as you have expected.

AURLS: [Ap your image and don't go off on any tangents. A friend may come to you for help so do your best.

GEMENT: (May 21 to June 21) Go out to new sites and meet interesting people, and award a business tie who is looking for trouble. Be patient with your mate.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Steer clear of a self-opinionated person today and be with individuals who are more modern and progressive in their thinking. LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Get into more modern ways of doing:

things and you can be more successful. Join with fellow associates at leasure activities you all enjoy. VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Get out to fun places with your mate and have a delightful time together. Avoid being around those who are grouches. Be imaginative.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Take a little trip with a good partner and put aside worries and tediums of everyday business for

now. Drive with care on the highway. SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) A fellow associate will join you in some plan you have which can be mutually helpful. You can accomplish a great deal of practical matters.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Plan to have as a good time today with your loved ones as you possibly can. Don't get involved in some monetary scheme which does not prove, fruitful. CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Meet the one you like at a restaurant and be happy together. Handle only those activities which are necessary in the morning.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Don't fume about some worrisome situation, do something constructive about it. Enjoy some long-neglected pleasures with your loved one.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Approach bigwigs for any favours you need. A friend can be too possessive, so avoid this individual for the time being. Be wise.

Birthstone of December: Turquoise - Zircon

Zaire's premier vows to purge public sector heads KINSHASA-(R) — Zairean for detailed reports and none Zaire's enormous size, plans

Prime Minister Kengo Wa of those four were of any use Dondo has promised to purge state companies and end decades of mismanagement and

соптирают. Speaking to executives of all 56 state-owned corporations summoned to a meeting in the capital the centrist premier said their firms' contributions to state finances had become more and more insignificant since independ-

ence from Belgium in 1960. "Many executives have behaved like veritable predators, making no distinction between their wallets and their companies' cash registers... rest assured, we will put a stop to all these practices, which verge on the anarchic," he said.

Mr.-Kengo said only four of the 56 had been able to meet a government request either technically or finan-

rupt state and should simply go into voluntary liquidation." he said.

Mr. Kengo said his government planned to improve performance with a series of 'draconian measures," including a reduction in tax exemptions, an end to fixed prices and abolition of monopoly status for all but

strategic and essential firms. The government would soon draw up a list of which companies were still viable, which should stay in the state sector, which should be liquidated or turned into public services, and which were possible candidates for priva-

tisation, he added. Mr. Kengo said that given

were underway to decentralise many of the companies, turning their provincial branches into autonomous units. "Punishment will be se-

vere... from now on you will be judged by your own peohe warned executives. Mr. Kengo has been ridiculed by opponents for bas-ing his \$311 million 1995 budget proposal on dramatic increases in revenue from state-owned copper mining giant Gecamines and di-

amond producer MIBA. Once Zaire's biggest foreign currency earner, Gecamines is on the verge of bankruptcy and has made no contribution to state coffers for years. MIBA benefits from generous tax exemp-

Mr. Kengo insisted that 1995 would be a hard year

and company would have to the state budget.

He also addressed fears that a division of senior north in the public sector, agreed as part of a coalition agreement. with supporters of President Moburu Sese Seko, would perpetuate the kind of political favouritism he has sworn to climinate.

Previously the key public sector jobs went to Mr. Modulu supporters but the agreement says they are now to shared equally with his poli: al opponents.

Mr. Kengo said new appointments would be made on the basis of professional competence alone and candidates would have to choose between careers as politicians or managers - they could not do both.



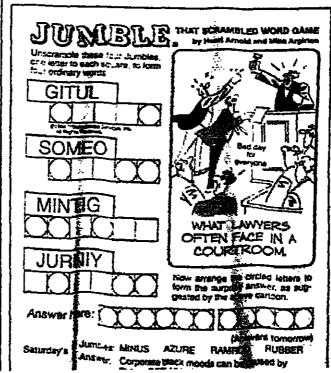
quite extra ordinary

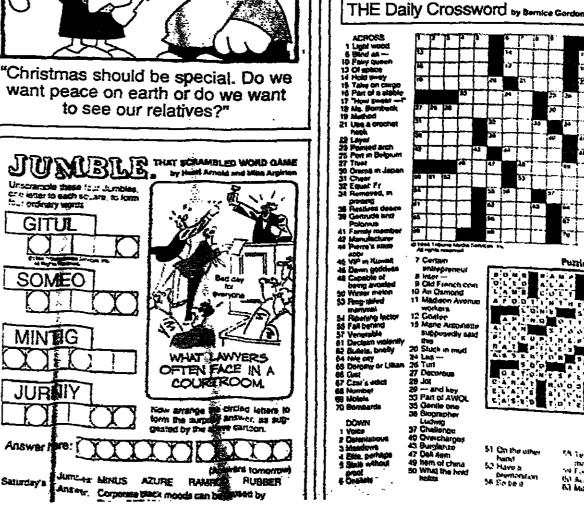
Gold & General ewelry

6th Circle. Amra Hou Phops. Amman.

AMETRICATE torprotection and spiritual altunement. It reduces mental tension and tension drawn.

※DAJANYS





Peanuts







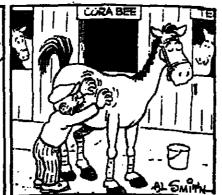
Andy Capp

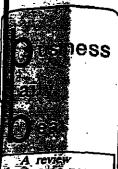












A review if economic news in the Arabic press

ew issues f shares nd stocks dd up to D 438.1m

wheld be a WTYO, which of them in the trail the irrical the irrica

Mile of

iles and ling of

den en den en den en

end har

rtuinly

of gov-

ly be-

ट्ड सिप

Trade

Mer.

aiunas

भगदा

K2.

ica.

We !!

duih

ine.

end

•dal

The second

proceedings of the second seco

With a total of JD 40 lion in new issues of res and stocks during rember 1994, the overall me at the primary mar-of the Amman Financial rket since the beginning of : year has reached 438.1 million. Observers = that most investments in new issues were by local stors contrary to the beof many optimists that ign investments would be acted to the Kingdom the advent of peace. aprding to statistics from Naistry of Industry and her foreign investments ing the past eleven iths reached only JD 11, ested in 76 companies, out total of JD 388.9 million th of investments regred at the ministry by 0 companies. As such, ign investment accounted only 2.8 per cent of the rall investment during the eleven months of this (pswzA IA) :

The mid-year results of Arab Jordan Investment k show that deposits of ats climbed to JD 178.1 tion, a rise of JD 13.5 tion over the mid-year re-in 1993. Credits exded by the bank increased m JD:71.7 million to 189.2 million. Overall sets totaled JD 227.1 milim compared to JD 217.1 ullion at mid-year in 1993 (Al Aswaq).

tt Total assets at the end of n 1994 (mid-year results) Cairo Amman Bank rated JD 385.7 million. Units extended by the bank tesharply by JD 38.27 mil-te peaking at ID 173.09 tion at the end of June The bank resorted to om other banks encial institutions to de its by clients from M15.8 million to JD 299.5 mion at mid-year. Howevc lotal deposits amounted ωD 320,4 million (Al лец).

manks in Jordan have med 30 new branches this min addition to 112 of the With 20 branches in the West Bank and Gaza Sub banks have a total of branches compared to Moranches at the end of at ear. Twenty more branthe Palestinian territories net year bringing the total ther to 40 branches for an arement of \$28 million (Al

to the Department of Cus-possible be holding monthly salings; throughout next rate try to work out any salinties or difficulties bethe department and seconomic sectors. take the form of a between customs and the private secall be held at one of n's hotels on Jan. 7 Dustour).

Loans extended by the strial Development ≮ during the first nine the of this year have hed JD 26.1 million ad over 112 borrowers pared to JD 22.8 million 10 borrowers during the period of last year (Al

The Jordan Petroleum ery Company has ined its gas production to onnes a day in addition iporting 250 tonnes a According to the secret-meral of the Ministry of gy and Mineral Rees, there is no intention ise the price of a gas ler (Al Aswaq).

Industry and Trade ster Rima Khalaf ex-to finalise economic ments between Jordan Israel by mid-May. Mations between the countries started last and covered industry. Aswaq).

Merrill Lynch maintains DM/USD1.55 and JPY/USD 92 forecasts

The following report, covering the period from Thursday, Dec. 22, 1994 until Wednesday, Dec. 28, 1994, was provided by Naser Nabulsi, private client group at Merrill Lynch — Dubai

Currency outlook

Overview

Fundamental View: In a Christmas-holidays shortened trading week, the dollar held on to the gains since the Nov. 8 Republican victory in mid-term U.S. elections, to trade around DM/USD /1.57 and JPY/USD 100 levels. As expected, the Fed declined to raise rates again at its Dec. 20 FOMC meeting and the focus now is on the next FOMC meeting on Jan. 31-Feb. 1. A 50 basis point hike in the Fed

meeting on Jan. 31-Feb. 1. A 50 basis point hike in the Fed funds rate is expected at this meeting. A similar hike is expected at the March 31 meeting.

If that turns out to be the peaking of U.S. rates as our December forecast assumes, the dollar rally may not have much further to go. If U.S. growth remains strong enough to encourage the Fed to raise the funds rate to 7 per cent or higher, a stronger dollar may result. For now, we maintain our 12-month forecasts of DM/USD 1.55 and JPY/USD 92, which assumes that Germany and Japan will hike official interest rates in the second half of 1995.

Technical View: The U.S. dollar was generally strong against most of the world's major currencies during the week ended Dec. 23. As a result, the dollar index posted its eighth gain in nine weeks: Nonetheless, the index has only managed to challenge — but not penetrate — resistance in the 89.00-91.00 area. Moreover, both sentiment and momentum, can be described as being overbought, at least on a short term

Thus, while medium term momentum is still constructive (indicating still higher rally highs in coming weeks) short term weakness, in the context of the still developing uptrend, appears indicated. A break below 89.00 would be a good sign that a correction is under way. Although benchmark support remains at 84.91, most of the nearby support exists in the 86.80-87.95 range.

Japanese yen

Fundamental View: The dollar continued to trade steady around the JPY/USD 100 level. The dollar has benefited in recent weeks from a combination of dollar purchases, mainly by the Bank of Japan. We continue to expect the dollar to trade as low as JPY/USD 92 over the next twelve months.

Technical View: The Japanese yen gained 0.1 per cent versus the U.S. dollar during the week ended Dec. 23. Sentiment is oversold. While the currency has only marginally penetrated the trading range that has been in force since July, it has decisively moved below the post-February uptrend channel. Momentum is still weak, and appears to have the potential to have a downward bias into February.

If so, this would allow for an upcoming penetration of 100.80-101.80 Y/U.S.\$ support; such a move would set the stage for further weakness to 105-107. With the above in mind, resistance at 96-97 takes on added significance.

Deutschemark

Fundamental View: The dollar held steady against the Deutschemark trading around DM/USD 1.57. The Deutschemark has been strong on the European crosses, with the French franc and the Italian lira losing ground due to political uncertainties in the two countries. It looks increasingly clear that the dollar has bottomed against the marks now that the market has gained confidence in the Fed. spiralation fighting credentials. For most of this year, markets have regarded the Fed as being "behind the curve" on inflation and consequently investors preferred to hold marks rather than dollars. Market participants now seem more inclined to believe that the Fed is serious in its turn toward a more restrictive monetary policy.

Due to this sea-change in sentiment, we recently revised our outlook for the dollar-mark exchange rate from being negative on the dollar versus the mark to having a neutral stance. An important wild card for the dollar is whether or not the massive amounts of capital outflows that.

Pound sterling

Fundamental View: In a short and quiet trading week, the pound held steady around USD/GBP 1.54 and DM/GBP 2.42. Following the 50 basis point hike in the base lending rate by the Bank of England in the first week of December the British pound staged a modest rally, rising to USD/GBP 1.57 and DM/GBP 2.46.

U.K. fundamentals continue to look good: Underlying inflation - retail price inflation less mortgage interest payments — is currently only 2 per cent. The lowest level in 27 years. However, real GDP rose 4.2 per cent in the third quarter following a 4.1 per cent increase for the second quarter and growth for 1994 should average 3.7 per cent. With very little spare capacity left in the U.K., inflation is likely to begin picking up soon and we expect base rates over the next year to be increased by another 100 basis points. However, we also expect that the U.S. will continue to tighten monetary policy while Germany is expected to shift to a less accommodative stance by the middle of next year, German official rates - the Lombard and discount rates are expected to remain unchanged during the first half of

1995 before possibly edging higher in the second half.

As we expect the short-term interest rate differential between Germany and the U.K. to widen, we look for the pound to appreciate against the mark to DM/GBP 2.50 in 12-month's time and we expect the pound to follow the mark higher against the dollar to our 12-month forecast of USD/GBP 1.61.

Technical View: The British pound lost 0.9 per cent versus the U.S. dollar during the week ended Dec. 23, and was the weakest of the six major currencies we regularly discuss. Sentiment continues to improve and is near oversold levels.

Momentum is weak and has the potential to remain so until February. Important nearby support exists down to 1:526 U.S.\$/L, and a break below that level would allow for a test of the January low at \$1.465. Resistance exists near \$1.58, then \$1.643.

Against the DM, sterling fell 0.5 per cent last week, Momentum appears to have expected to show a steady decline, and the federal deficit is decrease. Diverging inflation rates in the coming year and concerns over

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London Foreign Exchange and

bullion markets I	riday.	
U.S. \$1.00 costs	1.4036/46 1.5490/00 1.7344/54 1.3106/16 31.82/86 5.3410/60 1623.0/4.0 99.62/72 7.4325/25 6.7620/70 6.0780/30 51.5632/42	Canadian dollar Deutschemarks Dutch guilders Swiss francs Belgian francs French francs Italian lire Japanese yen Swedish crowns Norwegian crowns Danish crowns
One sterling One ounce of gold	\$382.60/383.10	

monetary policy are likely to lead the S.F./DM to 0.86 in

12-months time.
In line withour revised Deutschemark-dollar forecast that looks for further near-term dollar strength, we now expect the franc to weaken against the dollar in the next few months before recovering to trade near S.F./U.S.\$3.33.

Swiss franc

Technical View: The Swiss franc declined 0.2 per cent versus the greenback during the week ended Dec. 3. Sentiment is at its most oversold readings in over a year. Medium term momentum is weak, but the currency remains above its 1994 uptrend line. The DM cross fell 0.2 per cent last week. Medium term momentum has maintained its upward bias, and is approaching overbought levels. The tally in the cross, therefore, may be approaching its final stages. Although benchmark support exists at .827, a decline decisively through .844 would damage the uptrend. Resistance exists above .850.

Canadian dollar

Fundamental View: The Canadian dollar continued its slide against the U.S. dollar, dropping to C\$/U.S.\$1.40 level. Canada's economic fundamentals are sound, yet, they have failed to provide any respite to the CS. Led primarily by exports, third-quarter real GDP growth registered an impressive 4.7 per cent rate following a robust 6.4 per cent rate for the second quarter. Canadian exports grew at a 20 per cent annualised rate in the third quarter. The strong export performance enabled the third quarter current account deficit to decrease to CSS.1 billion from CS7.5 billion in the

As a share of GDP, this is the lowest level in over seven years. Personal consumption grew at a respectable 2.9 per cent. Unemployment was down in November from 10 per cent to 9.6 per cent. In September and October, the Bank of Canada followed an easy monetary policy with low short-term interest rates, given that the recovery in the consumer goods sector was more fragile than the recovery in the external sector.

The Bank of Canada himited appeard pressure on short-term rates through maintaining a low overnight rate, below the U.S. Fed funds rate. With the U.S. now moving towards a restrictive monetary policy, interest rate differentials are moving in favour of the U.S.\$, putting downward pressure again.

expect that it is a said of 250% and it is a s ext year, rates will be increased raising the cash rate to 10 per curve to invert by the second next year.

through indications that economic growth in the December quarter is likely to be strong. Also, the government's fiscal package — released second or third week in January — is expected to project surpluses in 1996 and 1997. However, current account data for November is slated to be released on Jan. 4 and that is likely to be negative for the A\$. We expect the A\$ to be trading near U.S.\$/A\$ 0.80 in six-month's time before falling back to U.S.\$/A\$ 0.78 in 12-month's time.

MEES: Israeli capital to be used in Egyptian project

NICOSIA (AFP) — Israel's Merhav Group has joined in a nearly \$1.5 billion project to build a refinery near Alexandria, Egypt, the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) reported in its latest

The refinery is part of a multi-billion dollar program-me designed to mobilise both public and private capital over the next five years to expand Egypt's oil refining and petrochemical facilities, according to the Cyprus-

based review.

Merhav along with Swiss and Egyptian private firms represent 80 per cent of the Irish-registered Middle East Oil Refineries (MIDOR) venture to build a 100,000 barrel-per-day (b/d) refinery at Sidi Kerir, MEES said. The remaining 20 per cent of the \$150 million capitalised

MIDOR belong to the stateowned Egyptian General Petroleum Company (EGPC), which will supply Egyptian crude to the refinery.

Merhav's head, Yossi Meiman, has said his group has

already raised \$700 million for the project, out of which \$200 million will come from the United States, MEES re-Oil Minister Hamdi Al Banbi told MEES that Cairo

has decided the five-year plan after "noticing that Europe and the East Mediterranean countries have not been building refining and pet-rochemical capacity for some

We expect that there will be an opportunity to increase exports to the neighbouring regions in the coming years... we will also be needing more petroleum products in Egypt after year 2000," he added.

Batayneh heads investment arm of huge Palestinian holding firm

By a Jordan Times staff

AMMAN — The Palestine Investment and Development Company (PIDC), a huge holding company set up by Palestinian businessmen in the wake of the breakthrough in the Middle East peace process, enters 1995 with a new manager for its investment arm after setting up affiliate firms in the West

Safwan Batayneh, economic advisor at the Prime Ministe assumed his new job on Dec. 18 after taking a one-year leave of absence from the prime ministry.

Dr. Bataynch, who served as vice-president of a major American investment firm and has extensive experience in the Wall Street, said the \$200 million capital company has already set up several projects in tourism, industry and housing in the West Bank and Gaza and was studying other projects.

We are considering several projects and are also on the lookout for viable investments in all sectors of the Palestinian economy," Dr. Batayneh told the Jordan Times.

The firm, which is in fact a holding company, has already set up three affiliates in the West Bank to handle projects in tourism, industry and housing. Details of the projects already under implementation were not immediately available, but they are believed to involve tens of millions of dollars.

While commercial viability is indeed a prime consideration in determining investment, the company will also seek to support "initiatives launched by the Palestine

National Authority!" Dr. Batayneh said. "After all, one of the company's prime objectives is to develop the Palestinian economy and hence we will be also be involved in infrastructure projects" in the West Bank

and Gaza, he said.

The Palestine Investment and Development Company, a firm registered in Liberia, is the biggest Palestinian private sector venture and involves dozens of Palestinian businessmen based in Jordan, the Gulf states, Europe and the United States.

The establishment of the company was formally announced in mid-1994, shortly after Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir signed an agreement in May to implement to Sept. 13, 1993, declaration of principles on Palestinian

While not all its founders need necessarily see eye-toeye with the political prog-rammes of Mr. Arafat, president of the PNA which runs autonomy in Gaza and the West Bank town of Jericho, the philosophy that prompted them to come together and launch the huge venture was a realisation that the private sector had to take up the initiative to develop the Palestinian economy, according to some of the shareholders of the firm.

"We do not believe in leaving everything to the political regime, hoping that it would do the job for us," said one shareholder earlier this year. The private sector has to take up its own initiative and see it through while of course cooperating with the political

JORDAN MARKET



residential. For more details call: **Abdoun Real Estate** Tel. 810605/810609 810520 Fax: \$10520











STUDIO HAIG

Develop your colour film at

🦥 JUMBO photo

• Free enlarge-ment 20 x 30 cm

Shmeisani - Opp. Grindlays Bank. Phone: 6040422 Swefien tel: 823891

ofessional Quality in

our shop and get:-

size 30% larger

CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT Mecca Street, Yarmouk Engineers' Housing Estate, near Kilo

Supermarket Monogolian Barbeque for Lunch Friday only Tel.: 818214 Come and taste our

Specialities Open dailÿ 12:00 - 3:30 p.m. 6:30;- Midnight Air Conditioned Hall

SELECT HOTEL

Superior Hotel Services for

Businessmen & Families & its

NeGrEsCo BaR

Excellent Snacks

Jabál Al-Webdeh/ Fel.637101/637102

Good Drinks &

Open Noons

& Evenings



in Jordan 1st Circle, Jabal Amman, near Ahliyyah Girls Schools Take away is available

Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m. 7:00 — midnight

Tel.: 638968



ehinese restaurant Typical Chinese Foods Skilled Chinese Chefs

Open 11:30 - 3:30 & 6:00 - Michight Take away is available <u>Shel</u> Al-Arab Street n Utheinen Commercial Centra Tel.: 851174 **C**ace Tasted Always Loved,

商餐星明 MING-SHING Chinese Restaurant The Best Cooking, Best Service. Best Atmosphere in Amman Deir Ghbar - American Embassy Str. near Baytuna Housing Estate Open from: 12 noon - 3:30 p.m. 6:30 - 11:30 p.m.

(王))

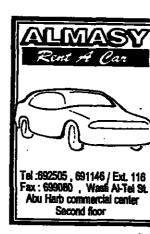




Tel.: 861838









Solo yachtswoman battles rough seas in crippled vessel Fears still held as Australian frigate steams to rescue

SYDNEY (R) — Rescue authorities said on Friday they may lose track of French yachtswoman Isabelle Autissier, adrift in huge sub-Antarctic seas, because her two emergency radio beacons will run out of power before she is due to be rescued Sunday.

Radio stations have been asked to broadcast a message to Autissier to turn off one of the beacons before they both run out of power, said Keith Hopper from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority.

"We really fear we may lose her if both beacons run out of power," Hopper told Reuters. Each beacon has 48 hours of power.

lian state-owned broadcasters and some commercial stations in southern Australia have agreed to air the message in French and

Autissier, 38, had been heading for Sydney in the second leg of the BOC round the world solo challenge when she activated the emergency beacons at 5.45 p.m. (0300 GMT) on Wednesday.

Aurissier's normal radio communications have been severely damaged. A survival kit, including a raft and radio, was dropped to her from an Australian Air Force Hercules plane on Thursday, but Autissier has not made radio contact. "We just don't know why she hasn't usaed the radio, Hopper said, adding Autissier may have decided to try to get some sleep after battling the wild seas for the past 24 hours

"We hope she will at least tune the radio into a commercial station and hear our message." he

The Hercules found Autissier's dismasted yacht. the Ecureuil Poliou Charentes 2, being pitched wildly in 50-knot winds and gigantic seas about 900 nautical miles south of Tasmania. Brief grabled radio message to the Hercules. Antissier said there was 'something else wrong' besides the broken mast, said one of her shore crew who

Serge Viv. - I hard when ever else is a ... ng with her boat must be written or else she would have crected a jury rig with the portion of the main mast the on oock.

"She would not have used the distress call size had lost con: 31 down there," Viviant 13kd Reseters on Friday. I thank it must be her sterning. She may have lost be: nidder."

Autistier was through to erect a jusy rig when she was dismasted ear . sa the Cape Town-to-Synney leg of the race. That time the managed to make her way to the French Kerguelen Islands in the southern indian Ocean and annialized a makeshift mast

Visited described earlier media tippers than Au-tracet's best had filled with water and mixed toping, saving the hull looked sound and the years nor-

That's topion in the water. What has probably hap-peried a that a big stave was relied but and broken the mast and destroyed all er circuricula " he said. Virtual said Autistics has state on parties as we wanted here She looked well, but

Tract som She must be really med She is really rough me really intelligent, but meated faugue will mart," 's und

reach tentes would be

The only death in the

NAPLES (R) - Napoli have

prombility that Eintracht

Frankfurt used a fourth fore-

ign player when the two

CARE BELL IN A LIEFA Cop

Eastracht woe the third

Gisteppe lodice.

round for 24 on aggregate.

secretary general of the Ita-ken theb, said the German scam's use of Sorti Sighadan

Kamiliani of Sort Sideodian Kombination in 14th first leg on November 24 was Napoli's bount of partention. His and Kombination violated six status as no "antimitated," player as "respons who has player at legger who has player at legger who has player at

cest five pears within a

Vanocasi Axiocistics, two of

Deep at youth how! - when

or played for Yugoslavia's

THE DOWN HOUSE IN THE DAM SOW

L'ader UEFA rules, ciubs

"Kowljenovie lost bis

remaining them once he

pured for Yegoslavia against Brazil and Argentina,"

are allowed three foreign

curers and two manifested

much UEFA to on

ments and month.

Eintracht used four

foreigners in UEFA tie'

BOC rate occured in 1986-87 when Franch yachtsman Jacque Deroux fell overboard in calm seas off the chest American coast after battling huge southern ocolis swells. Mental fac-

Conditions have cased buty, but a new cold FORE IS ONE TO his her Section "Any front down there in the coaring forties is pretty rough," said Hop-

Aprissier first sailed propose the world solo in the last BOC challenge in 1990-91 and earlier this year see the record for the Rying cloud yacht race from New York to San Francisco around Cape

todios said. "He cannot take

part in netional games and be

Komiscnovic played along-side Pole Jan. Puriok, Gha-

esian Anthony Yoboah and

Nigerian Jay Jay Okocha when Emiracht best Napolic

1-0 in the first log. Einstacht best Napoli 1-0

again earlier this month to

lodice said Italy's soccer loderation had asked UEFA

to look into the matter at

Napoli's request and were awaiting a reply.

in October Buropean soc-

cer's governing body over-turned the results of a UEFA

Cup first log match wose 3-2 by CSKA Sofia against

Juventus becusse the Bulga-rian club had fielded a player

who had not been registered with UEFA by the official

There could be several

solutions to this — repeat of

the game, disqualification of

the team - but, whatever the

case, UEFA will have to clear this up," lodice said.

desditae.

resch the quarter-finals.

considered assimilated."

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Chine supercoach injured in car crash

BELING (R) — China's supercoach Ma drove back to his sports centre from his inhospital official said Friday. "His life is not official said by telephone from Number Hospital in Wafangthan City, Liaonin-declined to give further details. Ma Thursday night from Anshan, the family healther died on December In to his sec. wife were hurt in a car crash in initheas father died on December In, to his sp Dalian when his Mercedes Benz struck a the Beijing Evening News said. Ma sufficed and had to have sniches, but his seriously hurt, the newspaper said.

PACK best Red Star in Beigrade tourname

BELGRADE (R) - Leading Greek PAOK Salonika beat Red Star of Beigrade 50-48) in the first match of a special totournament marked the first international Yugoslav team unce U.N. sanctions ago were relaxed almost three months ago: players, including Petrag Stojakowic who
29 points, are Yugoslavs. In the other
four-club event Limoges of France beaBelgrade 78-77 (43-34). Both reams are for Champions. Partitan won the title in 1902

Sanders earns NFL defensive honours

NEW YORK (AFP) - Two-sport star 1x the San Francisco 49ers has been voted National League defensive player of the year by spanished. Sanders, who joined San Francis agent in September, after the players' strike Major League Baseball season, easily beat control of the season of t Woodson and insebacker Greg Lloyd, both in the balloting. "It's a wonderful achieven:" said. "Not for myself, but I think for (defense: Rhodes, because he has been responsible for on my abilities, letting me play the way I'm plan way I'm being used. He put me in the right struct of Sanders had played all five of his previous 111 was with the Falcons in Atlanta, where he also disco dutte the Braves baseball team.

Aintree hero Red Rum set for century

LONDON (R) -- Triple Grand National winner Red Re a 30 on New Year's Day — equivalent to around he human terms. Red Rum won the Grand National in 19 1974 and 1977 and finished runner-up in 1975 and 197 Raccherges rarely live to 30, but apart from one serious illness three years ago when he pattered a blocked activity Red Rom has enjoyed good health. One devoted to down the idea of sending a gift-boxed single red rose. the borse ate it.

Gosikeeper scores with header

LISBON (R) — Beigian goalkeeper Guy Hubart saved!
Portuguese soccer team Estrela de Amadora from a hor defeat by Chaves Thursday night when he lett his net head in a late equaliser. Estrela de Amadona were l down in those first division game when Hubart may upfield and headed home from a corner, giving his team 1-1 draw. It was the first goal scored by a keeper in a Portuguese Championship this season.

Spurs ship Dumitrescu out to Sevilla

LONDON (AFP) — Teostenbam's Romanian World Constant The Duminterior is on his way to Spain and will specific rest of the season on loan to Sevilla after Spain chairman Alan Sugar did an about-turn to sanstion the dr. icu on a straightedrust. wanting all their money back on the forward for which former manager Ossic Ardiles paid 2.6 million pounds !: than six months ago. Sugar at first turned down the Spanie club's offer to take him on loan, but has now relented a given Sevilla the option to make the move permanent ... end of the campaign. Dumitrescu scored five goal at games in Ardiles's flamboyant attacking regime, but the first victim of new manager Gerry Francis's arreed White Hart Lane and asked to go on the transfer list carrie

Famed Yankees pitcher Allie Reynolds die

OKLAHOMA CITY. Okla (R) - Allie Reynolds, w pitched for six World Series championship teams with the New York Yankees has died. Reynolds, who had been undergoing treatment for cancer, was 79. Reynolds. hard-throwing right-hander who was known as "Sup-Chief" because of his Ameircan Indian ancestry and h blazing fastball, compiled a 182-107 record with a 3 earned run average in 13 Major League seasons. He starte his career in 1942 with the Cleveland Indians and after to seasons joined the Yankees in 1947, where he pitched un retirement after the 1954 season.

Sharpe to miss playoffs with neck injury

GREEN BAY (AFP) - Green Bay's star receiver Steel Sharpe will miss the playoffs with a neck injury.

Mike Holmgren confirmed Friday. Sharpe will be missed by the Packers when they host Detroit in the round of the National Football League playoffs Saturda He caught 94 passes in the regular season for a local 1,119 yards and 18 touchdowns. Packers doctor Patt McKenzie said the injury involves looseness in Sharp. two vertebrae. He said it was too soon to know if Share career was threatened. Sharp was injured on December. against Atlanta when he hit his head on an opponent w blocking. He experienced tingling in his limbs and a out the second half.

Tasmania wins Sydney-Hobart yacht rack

SYDNEY (AFP) — Australian maxi yacht Tasmauta n.o. SYDNEY (AFF) — Australian mani yagin 1 asmaula wan night finish to the 630 nautical mile Sydney-to-Hohart vacti face Thursday, arriving in Hobart shortly before 1.80 a m (1850 GMT). Close behind her was fellow Australian man Brindabolia, about halt a nautical mile astern and racing Brindadena, apour man a mannear nine asserts and racing the line in the island state of Tasmania's capital at above eight knots. The 25.7 metre Tasmania, formerly the New Zealand Endeavour, which took line honours in the the Zealand Endeavour, which took one nonours in the three: Hobert in 1992, led a record-sized starting fleet of the sessels for most of the 50th anniversary event Skippere by owner Robert Clifford of the Royal Yacht Club. Tasmania, she was first into the heavy event swell out the heavy event swell out. Sydney harbour after a crowded and chaptic start at 1 p. a (0200 GMT) Monday. Tasmania had been on Gourse (beat Kisola's 1975 race record time of two days. 14 hours 36 minutes and 56 seconds but she encountered advers weather Wednesday that scuppered her chances.

largest basketball stadium and Athens club panathi-ATHENS (R) -- A 20,000seat Athens stadium, schexaikos would have used it duled to host next June's as its home court. European nations basket-"We are losing big money waiting for the staball championship for men. is far from ready and offi-

Athens prepares Europe's

cials expressed concern Friday whether it would be completed on time. "The stadium's seats, the electronic scoreboards, the wooden floor, and the warm-up courts are still to

be completed," an official

involved in the works told

Reuters. "There's a lot of work to be done, there have been delays and we must start immediately so that everything is ready on time." he

The court, next to the Athens Olympic Stadium. is nicknamed the Temple of Basketball and will be Europe's largest when

finished. It was originally scheduled to open last October

dium to be completed,' said Panathinaikos president Pavios Yannakopoulos, who has spent \$22 million in the past three years to buy some of the most expensive players in

"Now we cramp our fans into a 3.000-seat stadium in both Greek and European matches and this is a pity since we could have sold an average 9,000 tickets a game if we had the space."

Sports ministry officials said the stadium was now due to be completed by April and that they expected record profits from the two-week tournament with tickets going for an average \$40 each.



Juventus want Baggio but not at any cost

SESTRIERE, Italy (R) -Italian club luventus said they wanted to keep World Cup star Roberto Baggo but were unwilling to break the bank to do so

Baggio's contract with Juvenius expires at the end of the season and speculation has been rife that the striker could join a foreign club willing to stump up in excess of 130 million to buy the player

"We want to keep Baggio," Antonio Giraudo, managing director of the Tunn team, told ANSA News this Italian Alone resort.

invites you to its special offer.

the tunes of our music.

one week),

"But obviously me will not be able to compete with a Japanese club that eventually offered Roberto Baggoo & 170 multion deal," he added

Baggoo, 27, his boom beenpered by mjury this season but veteran sinker Granices. Visik and rung star Alexandro Del Piero have more tima made up for his absence.

and pay his contract for three leader Parma by one point through the Sene A season. Baggio, 1993 Enropeus player of the year, is due to team, told ANSA News return in a key match against Agency in an interview from Parms when action resumes on January 8

NBA ROUNDUP The Turin team trails

> results sets standings after Thursday's games. Minest EM, L.A. Clippers 23 Atlanta 127, Sur Autonie 121, OT Charlette 125, Orlando 123 utes 136, Golden State 124 Partiand 184, Desiver 93 L.A. Lakers 96, Seattle 95

> > Eastern Conference Atlantic Division

	₩	L	Pet.	GB
Orizado	71	¥4. 6	.786	
New York	Havis	E 12	.53 8	7
The Later	11	13	.496	11
		17	.370	111/4
	1 110	17	370	111/5
		17	.346	12
	Ź	18	.286	13%

Cestral Divison

Cleveland Indiana Charjette Chicago Affanta	19 16 15 14 12	8 9 12 13 16	.784 .649 .556 .519 .429	2 4 5 74
Detroit Mitwatekee	9	16 17	.360 .346	9 91/2
	-	istem Co	onference Dividen	

'caib	19	8	.714
omitos	17	9	.784
an Antonio	34	10	.583
carro-	13	13	.500
			-

	Pağlik Di	vision		
Photnix	£ 21	6 .	.778 .667	3
Seattle La Lakers	18 16	y .	.640	4
Secrements	爱 14	12	.538	61/2
Pertland	€ <u>.</u> 13	12	.520	7 10}
Gelden State	₹ 10	16	.385	107

1714 24 .143

Tel.: 677420 CONCORD AMMOUN THEATRE CONCORD '1'

Nabii Al Mashini Theatre Presents Abu Awwad in the social comedy

Punctured Bag The theatre is closed on Mondays

Nabil & Hisham's AHLAN THEATRE Tel Basil Presents: The political satire: Al Salam Ya Salam

Saturday & Sunday is the theatre's holiday. in English Sunday January 15, 1995

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

TO ALL MOTHERS IN THIS WORLD WHO KNOW WHAT IT MEANS TO LOSE A CHILD AS IS HAPPENING IN CHECHENYA.

LET US PRAY TOGETHER FOR UNIVERSAL PEACE.

FROM THE CHECHEN AND NORTH CAUCASIAN MOTHERS IN JORDAN.

TEL/FAX 962-6-831524

Al-Maw'el THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR Psychological and Educational Consultation

Al-Maw'el HAS VACANCIES FOR THE following positions

1- Psychological counsellors and clinical psychologists HOLDING EITHER DOCTORATE OR MASTERS DEGREES

Those interested in applying for any of the positions can fill an application and provide a C.V. and a picture AT THE CENTER LOCATED DETWEEN THE 6TH AND 7TH CIRCLE inverdistley behind the Electricity Authority building Abd Al-Rahim Haj Muhammad Street, Building Number 49. Tel # 865785

Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

GOREN BRIDGE

New...New...New

A new surprise on New Year's Eve

Buy two pizzas and get the third free (the offer is valid for

Enjoy New Year's Eve in a quiet and warm atmosphere to

The Restaurant also invites its clients to a breakfast to be

served after spending their evening. The breakfast in-

New York New York Restaurant, Shmeisani.

Opposite Haya Cultural Centre, Tel. 605307

New York, New York Restaurant — Sh

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH

IGNORE THE ADAGE

The bridges
West North East South
Pass 1 + Pass 1
Pass 2 Pass 4
Pass 2 Pass Pass
Opening lead: Five of
Many players love to quote bridge
maxims, since they are cute and
quite often correct. But if you follow
them slavishly instead of using
those little gray cells, you are headed
for many expensive errors.
South's hand is borderline for a
jump to game unce hearts have been
raised. We would have preferred a
game try. Had that been two spades.

Tel.: 699238

North would have rejected, three di-amonds, however, would have re-reived a gleeful acceptance West led a low dram: -d, taken by west tee a tow canner, taken by dummy's king. Driver dre-frumps in two rotinds ending in hand, and led a club. West followed low and the jack lost to the king Declarer ducked the spade whift, but

won the continuation. Another club lost to the are and, since the com-

Sylvester Stallone/Sharon Stone THE SPECIALIST Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:00, 8:15, 10:30 **CONCORD** '2'

CRUSH Shows: 3:15, 5:15

Shows: 8:30, 10:30

PLAZA

The Lion King

Roddy Piper - Billy Blanks

Back in Action

Hi Citizen

2- AN ADMINISTRATOR CARRYING A DACHELORS DEGREE IN MANAGEMENT WITH EXPERIENCE 3- A SECRETARY fluent in both Arabic and English AND WITH COMPUTER SKILLS Tel.: 634144 Cinema PHILADELPHIA 0 Presents: A world famed movie picture worth D T THE FLINTSTONES

tz tj

tc

sí,

· dt

šC

ii: ut

nic or:

L ts

Both vulnerable. West deals

cludes pastries, omlette and pancake.

Note: Free home delivery of takeaways.

Happy New Year and Many Happy Returns

R2 +QJ107 83 82 99854 J102 +A1064 + K952 SOUTH

lost to the ace and, since the communication between the defenders' manifestion between the defenders' hands was severed, declarer was she to win the diamond return, ruff a diamond and discard a spade on the queen of chibs.

The result looks normal enough, but in the endd light of day it is obvous the defenders could have won the day had West ignored the adags: "Second hand low a When declarer first led a low clob toward dummy's hidding. West should have shot up with the ace and shifted to the king of spades No matter what declarer does East will be able to win the second club and cash whatever spade tricks are utilities for the taking. Violating a hoary adags will net the defenders two tricks in each black suit for down one.

L.A. Cappers Tel.: 618275

Will soon present: Mouse Hilaze (SUM'AA) in the satirical political comedy:

Tickets ere available all day

Daily at 8:30

rs. satistical

Descouch injuled #

- 17aer Red Ref

"Tomal in 1977"

175 and 1974

JI (Alt. Still) IL.

octed angle

coted follows

- 7⊔ 22/64 F →

i- from a bond

eft his net &

- la were [

יי. שאש עדקר

ie his team :- > ?

uceper in the

aher Spar

👾 and bir

then the deat . MERIBEL. France (R)

rward sale - Siovenia's Urska Hrovat

for whore !! spoiled Vreni Schneider's run

pounds less it of success when she won the

the Spanisk third slalom of the women's

thented are Alpine Skiing World Cup in

coalse The 20-year-old Hrovat, c. but whose only previous World

amvair! Cup success was on home

had a near-perfect second run

and won in a combined time

Schneider, the World Cup

folder, had to be content

with second place 0.09

··· list earlier ... saow in Maribor last season,

is ids dies of one minute 20.15 seconds.

. had beel a seconds behind. She also lost

around in);

BEHING (R) — China have decided against competing in next week's opening World Cup swimming event in Hong Kong but an official said Friday the decision was not

related to doping scandal surrounding the team.

"We planned to take part but the athletes were too tired after the Asian Games just eight weeks ago," Yuan Jiawei, vice-president of the Chinese Swimming Federation, said.

Bailing itself has already been dramad as a venue in the Beijing itself has already been dropped as a venue in the World Cup series because the meet organisers in the Chinese capital failed to confirm they would go ahead with

Yuan said China's swimmers had had insufficient time to recover since October's Asian Games in Hiroshima, Japan, and participation in Hong Kong would have disrupted training schedules at the start of a busy year.

He said the decision not to compete had nothing to do with revelations of drug abuse at the Hiroshima Games. Seven swimmers were among 11 Chinese competitors banned after testing positive for the banned anabolic steroid dehydrotestosterone.

All 11 athletes were stripped of their Asian Games medals by the Olympic Committee of Asia.

The swimmers, who included women's world champions Yang Aihua and Lu Bin, were suspended for two years. China has vowed to take steps to curb doping which it maintains is an isolated problem and not officially sanctioned or organised, as alleged by some trainers and

Chinese swimmers have taken part in the World Cup series in the past but Yuan said the event produced little benefit in return for the disruption to training.

The only benefit is that they have some experience in how to compete," he said.

Yuan said another reason for missing the Hong Kong meeting was that entry formalities for travel there were extremely complicated

In Hong Kong, one of the organisers said he doubted

visa difficulty was a factor since special arrangements to pick up visas on entry into the territory could have been "At present...it may be embarrassing for them to send swimmers." Ronnie Wong, a member of the Hong Kong

organising committee, said.
"I think there are other problems hindering their coming, maybe finances."

The Hong Kong event next Tuesday and Wednesday is the first of seven in the World Cup series of short-course (25-metre pool) meetings. The six others will be held in European venues between January 31 and February 19. Germany's Franziska Van Almsick, world 200 metres freestyle champion, leads an entry of 74 swimmers from 16 countries and territories in Hong Kong.

Van Almsick set a 200 metres freestyle world short-course record at the Beijing World Cup meet two years ago and Wong hopes she will break the mark in Hong Kong.



Bernard Tapie Tapie to stand

trial

LILLE, France (R) — The legal troubles of bankrupt French businessman and exsoccer boss Bernard Tapie worsened when a judge ordered him to stand trial in march on charges he rigged a soccer match, judicial sources

Judge Bernard Beffie said Tapic, ex-president of Olympique Marseille, would stand trial in the north French city of Valenciennes from March 13 to 21 charged with active corruption, a stiffer charge than the original one of complicity.

Tapie, a former cabinet minister in a Socialist-led government who was declared bankrupt two weeks ago, is suspected of a role in bribing league opponents Valenciennes to lose a key match in May 1993.

He will also be tried for allegedly influencing witnes-ses in the match-rigging scandal. Each of the charges carries jail terms of between one

and three years. Tapie denies any wrong-doing, also rejected charges that he illegally ran up massive debts in running his crumbling business empire.

A few days after the disputed match, which Marseille won 1-0, the club reached the peak of its success under Tapie's eight-year leadership by winning the European

Cup.
Two weeks ago, Tapie stepped down as president of the club after soccer authorities banned him.

Five others implicated in the case will also stand trial in March, including former Pierre Bernes who also has been accused of active cor-

Valenciennes players Christophe Robert and Jorge Burruchaga Christo will be charged with receiving bribes and Marseille player Jean-Jacques Eydelie will be charged with complicity along with Robert's wife, Marie-Christine Robert.

Orthodoxi drop to 2nd division match ended 40/18 for Al

Jordan Handball Championship

Ahli maintain lead;

Special to the Jordan Times AMMAN — Titleholders Al Ahli ended their matches by crushing Amman 40/ 18 Thursday in the 11th week of the Kingdom's

Handball Championship.
Al Ahli Amman 40/18: Al
Ahli crushed Amman at the Sport Palace in an exciting match that gave Al Ahli another two-points to take the lead with 22 points in the overall standings. Al Ahli experience and

Amman's weak defence gave Al Ahli's Nabil Jamil, Iyad Abed Hameed and the wingers Mousa Abdallah and his brother Issa the chance to score and move freely, confusing Amman's defence who looked weak and unorganised to end the first half with 23/9 lead. In the second half Al Ahli kept the pressure taking advantage of the unst-

able performance of Am-

man's players who tried to

attack but in vain as the

By Roufan Nahhas

Shouneh 33/29: Meanwhile in another match Al Salt

beat Yarmouk Shouneh in an exciting match from

both sides.

Al Salt's Mohammad
Hindawi and Imad Tadrous
led the attacks successfully in spite of a lot of pressure from Y. Shouneh who looked determined to win. The first half ended in a tie

In the second half Al Salt concentrated on quick attacks to leave Y.

Shouneh trailing as they won the match 33/29. Hussein/Orthodoxi 37-31: In another match Al Hussein pushed Orthodoxi to the second division after

losing 10 matches. Al Hussein's strong defence was enough to leave Al Orthodoxi in a dilemma, as Al Hussein scored an important 37-31 victory to remain fourth.

Standings

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts.
Ahli Arabi Salt Hussein Y. Shouneh Amman	I2 10 11 11 11 10	II 9 6 4 3	1 1	1 1 5 6 7	420 302 323 299 326	276 258 324 314 364 290	22 18 12 9 7
Orthodoxi	11	1	-	10		373	

* Amman-Arabi have a postponed match.

Newcastle's Keegan hopes to slip back into top gear

LONDON (R) — Newcastle manager Kevin Keegan is looking to Andy Cole and Paul Kitson to get their act together and help recapture his side's old zert at Norman his side's old zest at Norwich

Saturday. The St. James' Park team started the season with sixstraight wins and 29 points from their first 11 matches of the English Premier League

campaign. But the last nine have brought just 10 points as Keegan's side, who have slipped out of Europe and the English League Cup, have dropped to fourth in the

Cole has failed to score in six games — his worst-ever spell for Newcastle - while Kitson has not featured on the score-sheet since Novem-

Keegan, once more without Peter Beardsley, has admitted the pairing has not worked as he had antici-

pated. "Andy and Paul are trying to work out a new partnership. It hasn't lived up to my expectations so far but I feel they've got the ability to be a good pair," said the

"They're not sure where they're going to run or what the other is thinking, but it would surprise you if they

"It's wrong to throw two players together and say "there you go, you cost around two million pounds each and you should be able to play together.

"I think there's more to football than that but they're working hard and will get it

Keegan added: "If we can get three points at Norwich we'll be right back in it. We've got 21 games left after Saturday — we're not even halfway yet.

"But after Norwich we've got 12 games at home and nine away and I'd keep us in the back of your minds when you're talking about the

Leaders Blackburn travel to London, seeking to extend Crystal Palace's miserable goalless run to eight league

One player hoping to end his own goalless spell is expensive striker Chris Sutton, who has failed to net for four matches. Palace are without hamstring victim John Sala-

Paul Ince is again absent for champions Manchester United as they bid to make up for their midweek slip-up against Leicester at Southampton and maintain the pressure on Blackburn.

Liverpool, up to third after scoring six points out of six over Christmas, face a testing trip to Leeds.

The Elland Road side are still without Brian Deane. Howells suspension would have been completed had Wednesday's game at Blackburn not been postponed.

The call-off, however, did give Gary Speed and David Wetherall additional time to recover from the injuries they sustained against Newc Tottenham manager Gerry

Francis faces an anxious wait to see if Nick Barmby and David whose will be fit for the trip to Coventry. Nottingham Forest need to add to West Ham's discom-

fort at Upton Park if they are to stay in the title race. z. The Hammers should have John Moncur back, but Don Hutchison and Martin Allen are still injured.

If you're going to Europe or the USA get the best Car Rental prices from Hertz.

yoinng and impressive Slove-

nian team, she said it was a

special pleasure to beat

Schneider, who had won the

last six slaloms she had en-

tion because she is in such

good shape at the moment. I

hope there will be more vic-

tories like this one next

France's Leila Piccard, the

sister of former super-giant

Olympic champion Franck.

shone on home snow, taking

third place in 1:20.74, her

best result in a slalom.

year," she said.

gives the extra motiva-

cialist, she had only made it

to the podium once before, in

a giant in Cortina last year. Australia's Anita Wachter,

back in form after a lacklus-

tre start to the season, was

There were more bad news

for Schneider as Germany's

Katja Seizinger, the world's

leading downhill specialist, showed she would also be

able to score vital points in slaloms this season. She took

eighth place in 1:22.19, her

best result by far in a technic-

fourth on 1:20.78.

US - California	154 US Dollars
US - Florida	114 US Dollars
UK	154 UK Pounds
France	1659 French Francs
Switzerland	308 Swiss Francs

World Car. Slovenia's Hrovat ends Schneider's run

her unbeaten record in sla-

champion would have taken

the overall World Cup lead

with a one-point advantage

"I never thought I could

ski so well as I did today

because of the rain," said

"I had problems at the

start of the season because I

had new skis but I'm impro-

ving with every race," she

The most gifted of the

The 30-year-old Olympic

loms this seasons.

if she had won.

The European rates are for a 7 day rental, including Unlimited Mileage, CDW and Tax.

The US rates featured are for a 7 day rental including Unlimited Mileage and LDW. High dweason surcharge may apply.

These rates are for rentals starting before 1 April 1995.

Winter specials

Winter holidays in Europe and the States are an exciting perspective. They are even more so when looking at the car rental offers Hertz has prepared specially

Security

For 76 years Herrz has been synonymous with top quality service. Today you can be assured of receiving the best at any one of our 5000 locations in 130 countries at affordable prices. It is not a surprise that Hertz is No.1 in

(T)o reserve the car of your choice, simply call your local Hertz office or your travel agent.

Bahrain	321 356	Saudi Arabia.		
]ordan	62P 846	West	2 660 5301	
Kuwait	476 5461	Central	1 476 2110	
Oman	56A 21W	East	1 848 1049	
Qatar	416 841	UAE	H24 422	



Fast cash around Now you can withdraw up to JD 500 from our ATM Machines using your GlobalAccess card. Our ATM's also accept all MasterCard and VISA cards issued by HSBC Group members and any

المبنك البريطاني للشرق الاستط The British Bank of the Middle East HSBC COD Group

VISA card carrying the PLUS logo. For further information contact any of our branches: Jebel Hussein

> Tel: 660471/2 Amman Branch Tel: 636175 / 6



Jebel Amman Branch Tel: 643102 / 6 Wahdat Branch Tel: 770810, 770130

TOTAL PEACE OF MIND

Taple in trouble

POINTE-A-PITRE All!

- Embattled French (1998)

and politician Hemaid 19097

time for allegedis hitten? 3

policeman, a reliable source

on this French Caribbean is

land said. The policemen is

detective, alleges Mr. Larre-

hit him while he was staking

out Mr. Tapse's house in the

French section of the langest

Dutch Cambbean island of

Saint-Martin, and has been t

legal proceedings agains Mi-Tapie. "Tapie probable

thought he was a papa:

a source told AFP M: Tapie, a Euro-MP, was de

clared bankrupt by a Pairs

court on Dec. 14, a decision

which bars him from public

office for five years and

wrecks his dream of standing

for election as mayor of

Marseille. He is appealing

lottery, but don't

LONDON (R) - Britain's

latest lottery winner claimed

the decision.

'I've won the

tell anyone'

is in hot water again. 25

for hitting a

policeman

C. S. C. Land

French pilot feared double hijacking

PARIS (Agencies) — A French pilot said on Friday he made an emergency takeoff from Algiers airport at Christmas, fearing militants were planning to hijack his airliner along with an Air France jet just seized at the same airport

The pilot for French domestic airline Air Inter told France-Info radio that the control tower had not warned him of the hijacking. even though he landed 30 minutes after the Air France Airbus A300 had been seized by hijackers.

The pilot, who did not give his name, said his plane, also an Airbus A300, landed on Saturday a haif-hour behind schedule. Had he landed on time, he said, his plane could have been seized instead.

"If there were more of them, (the hijackers) could have split up and taken both planes," he added. "It could have ended up very badly."

The hijackers of the Air France jet shot dead three passengers before flying to Marseille where French commandos stormed the plane on Monday to end the 54-hour drama, killing all four guerrillas and freeing the 169 people on board.

As soon as the Air Inter plane came to a halt, Air France security staff boarded and told the pilot of the hostage-taking.
"The control tower never

told us anything. If they had told us five or ten minutes earlier. I was just beginning my descent and I could have turned around immediately."

He said he disembarked his passengers and then took off immediately for the southern French city of Marseille, right across the Mediterranean. without refuelling or unloading the luggage on board.

Air Inter flight IT4210 left Marseille Saturday at 10:20 a.m. (0920 GMT) and landed in Algiers at 11:45 a.m. - 25 minutes behind its scheduled time of 11:20 a.m.

The hijacking of the Air France A-300 jet, with more than 200 passengers and crew on board, began a: 11:18 a.m., according to Air France.

The revelations are bound to fuel doubts raised by French authorities about yet to be formally identified security at Algiers airport. Earlier Air Inter confirmed

ROME (Agencies) - Presi-

dent Oscar Luigi Scalfaro in-dicated on Friday he was

opposed to calling the snap

general election being de-manded by outgoing Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi.

In his first public acknow-

ledgement of the seriousness

of the political drama facing

Italy, Mr. Scalfaro said he

would need to hold a fresh

round of talks with politicians

to find a solution to the crisis

sparked by Mr. Berlusconi's

round of consultations pro-

vided "a clear and evident

result: That a majority (in

He told reporters it was his

duty to first seek a solution

parliament) say 'no' to im-

Mr. Scalfaro said the first

resignation last week.

mediate elections."

Scalfaro will try

to avert snap polls

a report in the daily Le Figaro that the Air Inter plane took off without taking on new passengers or unloading the luggage of passengers who had just arrived.

But the airline did not know the exact reasons for the pilot's decision to make an emergency departure. "We are waiting for a security report," said a spokes-

Le Figaro said Friday Algerian hardliners had planned to commandeer the Air Inter jetliner in addition to the Airbus-300 which they later hijacked to France.

Air Inter said the plane was only on the ground for 15 minutes. "The Air Inter plane was not threatened at any time," it said in a state-

The airline said an Air France mechanic who had been about to board the hijacked jet learned of the danger and instead got on the Air Inter plane just before the doors closed

The Armed Islamic Group (GIA), the most violent of Algerian fundamentalist groups, claimed responsibility for the hijacking.

France has been shocked by the ease with which the hijackers, loaded down with guns, grenades and sticks of dynamite, were able to walk on the plane under the nose of airport security just an hour's flying time from

Meanwhile, the crews of two French gas tankers bound for Algeria refused to dock on Thursday because they feared for their safety and turned their vessels back to France.

The communist-led CGT. the largest French labour union, said all freight shipments to Algeria should be suspended until Jan. 4 to allow better security measures to be set up. Since the Christmas hijack.

ail French commercial airlines and ships have been panned from carrying passengers to Algeria.

Also on Thursday, investigators identified one of the hujackers as Makhlous Be Guettaf, 25, from El Arach in

The three other bodies had

(Continued on page 3)

YEAR-END FRENZY: Traders on the op-tions market at the Paris stock exchange year, despite a 1 per test overall minimal drap Settlers wreck Palestinian-owned gas station

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Jewish settlers said on Friday they destroyed the foundation of a Palestinianowned petrol station under construction in the Israelioccupied West Bank, in in effort to bar Palestinians from building there.

David Alhayani, a settlement leader in the West Bank's Jordan rift region, said the site was under settler jurisdiction, and Arab construction would not be allowed there. But the army said the can-

Ayatoliahs.

month ago.

In a mass prayer sermon, he

dismissed as the "worst kind

of injustice" reports that

Iran's supreme political lead-

er Ayatollah Ali Khamenei

was making a push for be-coming a "marja taqlid"

(source of emulation), the

Many Iranian newspapers

and influential clergymen

have been promoting Ayatol-

lah Khamenei as a new marja

to fill the gap at the top of the

Shifte clerical hierarchy since

centenarian Grand Ayatollah

Mohammad Ali Araki died a

Some officials and clerics

said outsiders like Avatollah

Hossein Ali Montazeri, dis-

missed by the late leder Ayatollah Ruhollah

Khomeini as his designated

successor in 1989, should not

be allowed to become a mar-

A newspaper this week re-

ported demonstrations

against Ayatollah Montazeri

Mr. Rafsanjani, speaking

publicly for the first time in

the current debate, said

Ayatollah Khamenei, whom he has known for 40 years,

was unambitious and it took a

lot of persuation to make him

accept the posts he held since

the 1979 Islamic revolution.

illness be me serious, we talked to No. Khamenei ab-

out becoming a marja be-cause he did not want to accept the burden," Mr. Raf-

sanjani said.
"Now to distort facts and

say that (Khamenei) pushed

to become a marja or that

there was a power struggle or

that he felt superior is the

Ayatollah Khamenei said

two weeks ago that he would

act as a marja for Shiites

living outside Iran, but would prefer other qualified Ayatol-

ahs to offer spiritual gui-

dance to Iranian Shiites so

that he could have time to

Mr. Rafsanjani said in any

case Ayatollah Khamenei's

position as Iran's supreme

political leader was much

more important than that of a

Under iran's constitution,

the supreme leader is the top

state authority and has nearly unlimited policy-setting pow-

The marjas derive their in-

fluence from the allegiance

and number of their followers

attend to affairs.

maria.

worst kind of injustice."

"When Ayatollah Araki's

in front of his home.

top Shiite clerical rank.

with heavy vehicles and wrecked the foundation of the gas station." Mr Alhayanı teld Israel tadır. A Router camera crew on Enday filmed armed settlers directing a buildezer that was uprouting the foundation.

at might residents of the val-

ley went out to the area along

struction was legal

The action connected with "Some people decided to And andowners memore take action and verterday late. to keer writen from capandten browning there's a gr Selfactions, a proyect that has threatened to head for Israels-Palestine I head to Organization

The same chall admonstration in charge of the sail-occupied West Bank, said the Pricilizan owner of the perresistance are. Yuna Hannis. aft bind or is rosque find last

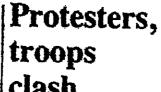
The gas station has all the necessary permits for construction at the location," said Elise Sharar, civil admiintration spokerwoman for West Bank.

It was the second conflict construction between this and Palestinians in West Bank this week. estinians and Israeli to activists demonstrated this week at a hilliop near Bethichem, where construction has begun on hundreds of new housing units for Jewish settlers. The project was

approved by the previous hardine Likud government. Yasser Arafat's Palestinian authority says the construction threatens Israel-PLO

posec talks. Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin has asked the atturney general to examine legal ways to stop the building, but while the examination is conducted construction con-

Israeli peace activists rowed to rally at the site on Friday despite an army order outlawing demonstrations.



Troops pushed back the clubbing them. They arrested more than a dozen and imposed a curiew on Al Khad-

Dr. Tibi said troops pro-

"I am sorry to say maybe metres inside the demonstration and started to hit people, and this is the reason why the

arm-in-arm with Dr. Tibi.

"My brothers, I appeal to you to continue on this stand in defence of this land for the sake of justice, for the sake of peace," he said.

Mr. Rabin trounced ex-Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's Likud in a 1992 election ish settlements, which

The hilltop has become a focal point for demonstrations against Jewish settlement in the West Bank, where more than 110,000 settlers live among 1.2 million

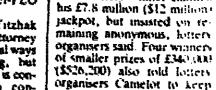
Palestinians are especially concerned Israel will form a ring of Jewish settlements around Jerusalem, the Arab

Palestinian Authority If Israel believes it can do whatever it wants without an Arab, an Islamic or an international reaction, it is dream-

"long and tough battle" over Jowish settlements in the occupied West Bank, Mr. Arafat warned Friday.

ty. We are in a long, danger-

"However they try to justify it, it is a clear violation of



jackpot, but insisted on remaining anonymous, hitters organisers said. Four winners of smaller prizes of £340 (AX) (\$526,200) also told lotters organisers Camelot to keep their names secret. Bushfulness among winners of the new National Lottery, which began only six weeks ago. follows a media frenzy caused when the largest prize so far - £17.8 million (\$27.55 milbon) -- was announced three weeks ago and the winner demanded anonymity. News paper reporters beseiged the home of a 41-year-old Indian immigrant after pinpointing him as the lucky winner. The newspapers then fought a court battle with Camelot, which is obliged to respect requests for anonymity, over whether they could print his name. The newspapers won but most decided to respect a not to be named But the company, a profitmaking consortium which gives a share of the lottery takings to charity, was accused by members of parliament of leading the media to the jackpot winner. Since then, all winners have demanded anonymity. Lottenes in other countries such as Spain and the United States offer much higher payouts but controversy rumbles on in Britain over the size of the top prizes. Even the Archbishop of Canterbury George Carey, spiritual lead-er of millions of Anglicans worldwide, joined the fray, saying that the jackpots should be smaller.

French algae to help Japanese slim down

BREST, France (AFP) - A Japanese importer has ordered 17,000 cans of algae infusions made by Brestbased firm Ocealys, for sale at Tokyo beauty institutes and diet food shops. Occalys said Wednesday. "The importer asked me to create a line of seven algae-based infusions, each with its own characteristics", said cosmetologist and Ocealys manager Fabienne Bressin. She used seven food algae which she combined with extracts of fruits, spices and other plants. She said the seven "tisanes" have "calming" effects and help the takers slim down, promoting individual well-being. Bresdin set up the company in June last

Drinkmaker's ad too much for Coca-Cola to bear

BOSTON (R) - The goliath of soft drinks took on David when Coca-Cula Co sued a 112-year-old family-owned soft drink business to stup it from running television ads featuring a polar beat. Coca-Cola, the Atlanta-based mulfinational grant, filed an injunction in U.S. district court against Polar Corp. a cott drinks maker in Worcemer. Massachusetts, Polar said it has used a polar hear named Orson as its mascut for most of its history and ran an animated ad with a polar bear 17 years ago, Coca-Cola, m turn, has run ads featuring animated polar bears succeeding



Egyptian President Hosni Muharak (right) Syrian President Hafez Al Assad in Alexandria listens as Saudi King Fahd (centre) talks to on Thursday (AFP photo)

Syria hails Arab mini-summit

(Continued from page 1)

The summit talks came just two days after Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin travelled to Oman, becoming the first Israeli head of government to

visit a Gulf Arab state. Syria has long opposed one-to-one deals between Israel and Arab countries and insists that only a global settlement can lead to a comprehensive peace.

"Syria failed in its aim to impose a joint Arab decision on the Gulf countries," said the daily Haaretz.

And the Maariv daily said the summit had not achieved the aim of slowing down "the Arab World's reconciliation with the Jewish state. "But we will have to wait to see if the public and secret

decisions taken in Alexandria will dissuade Gulf countries from their rapprochement with us in the coming weeks," the paper added. A Saudi official said after the summit that Riyadh had agreed to help slow the pace

of Arab normalisation with

Israel, as long as there was no progress in Syria's peace talks with the Jewish state. Talks between Israel and Syria have made no tangible progress since they were launched at the Madrid peace conference in October 1991. They are deadlocked over the

scope and timetable of an Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights. In their summit statement, President Mubarak, President Assad and King Fahd also called on Iraq to implement U.N. resolutions for the

sake of its people and Arab security. In a statement given to reporters at the end of the summit, the three leaders said they wanted to achieve

peace in the region, and had exerted sincere efforts to re-move obstacles in the way of

"The leaders stressed this peace must be based on U.N. resolutions 242, 338, 425 and the principle of land for who pay them religious taxes. | peace.

"In this regard, the leaders highly appreciate Syria's position and its serious efforts to make the peace process a saccess. They (leaders) stressed their firm support for Syria's just de-

mands." The support comes at a time when diplomats say Siria fears it is becoming increasingly isolated as Arabs break ranks to either sign separate peace deals or forge

ties with Israel. Syria, which has demanded a full Israeli withdrawai from the Golan, ended its latest round of peace talks last week saying no progress had been achieved.

Damascus has spoken out against the peace agreements Jordan and the Palestinians struck with Israel.

It has also publicly criticised a decision earlier this year by the six-member Gulf Cooperation Council - of which Saudi Arabia is the most powerful member - to lift a 46-year-old economic boycott on firms that deal with Israel.

Mr. Assad and King Fand arrived unexpectedly in Alexandria on Wednesday and held lengthy discussions with Mr. Mubarak on Wednesday and a brief meeting on Thurs-The leaders urged the

world community to work to remove obstacles that they said Israel placed in the path of the peace process and stressed their demands for regional arms control. in this regard the three

leaders renew their requests for the setting up of a region free of weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East, particularly auclear weapons," they said.
Egypt, which became in
1979 the first Arab state to

ence Arabanot to sign an

extension of the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty unless Israel signed
Cairo has expeatedly urged
Israel, which is widely be-lieved to possess nuclear weapons, to sign the treaty but Israel has said it would

not do so as long as it faced a potential nuclear threat from

and Iraq.

The heads of state called on Iraq to fully comply with U.N. resolutions in order to riate its people's suffering to boost security in the Arab World,

"The three leaders called on Iraq to complete the step it took by recognising the independence of Kuwait and its borders by fully complying with all Security Council resolutions in this regard.

This would help end the suffering of the brotherly Iraqi people and create the appropriate atmosphere for boosting security and stability in the Arab World," they

The three leaders expressed their resolve to strengthen the 22-nation Arab League and its institutions to maintain its position as the mother Arab organisation in which Arabs work to fulfill their aims."

Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa told reporters Friday that "the summit was a big step in crystallising a joint Arab position, the results of which will become known during the next stage."
He said it would lead to "reactivating the Arab League."

One official close to the meeting said Thursday that the session could be the first step towards a summit of all Arab leaders. It would be the first such meeting since the Gulf war.

Meanwhile, an Iraqi diplomat, who insisted on anonymity, said "we are disappointed with the communique" because "it repeats the same U.N. Security Council position." Kuwait on Friday wel-

comed the summit statement. Abdul Asiz Al Dakhil, planning minister and minister of state for cabinet affairs, said in a statement that Kuwait welcomed the calls made by the three leaders.

clash (Cantinged from page 1)

voked the demonstrators.

there were instructions to do so. Soldiers invaded 200 situation exploded," he told reporters.

"The army has behaved in a had manner, by using force against the people who came to express their stand," said Israeli legislator Talab Al Sana, who was also jostled by troops as he stood linked

Before the clashes, Mr. Arafat addressed the crowd by phone through a loudspeaker from his Gaza head-QUARTERS.

after pledging to stop most government funding for Jew-Palestinians view as a provocation.

Palestinians.

half of which they see as the capital of a future state. Secretary-General Tayeb Abdul Rahim told Reuters:

The Palestinians are facing

"I have just heard news that Israeli soldiers attacked the demonstration at El Khader village," he said in a speech at Al Azbar Universi-

ous and tough baitle. They (Israel) are trying to create new realities before the Palestinian authority moves to the West Bank," said Mr. Arafat.

the peace agreement and we cannot accept it."

that could avoid new elections less than a year after Italians went to the polls. Mr. Scalfaro said he would have to hold a second round. which political sources said will start after the New Year holiday. His comments put him at loggerheads with Mr. Berlusconi, who has insisted that snap elections are the only way to solve the crisis that broke after his former allies in the federalist Northern League left his stormy coali-

This week's talks revealed deadlock between an alliance of the media tycoon and his loyal partners in the hard right National Alliance on one side and most other forces in parliament on the other. Mr. Berlusconi's camp says

I that any government that I does not include them or tinvolves the opposition t would betray electors who oted for the "freedom Viance" which won general tions last March.

t. Berlusconi's Forza Itaty kept up its pressure Scalfaro to appoint lia tyccon as caretak-Aminister and said he sloice under the con-

t.

convernment is the co\must take the elections, said Ang spokesman be mistaken from a constitutional point of view for a government of technicians to be given the task," Mr. Tajani added. Unlike the Northern League, Forza Italia and the National Alliance are widely seen set to gain from early

elections that they say should be held soon under Mr. Berlusconi's premiership.
An early poll could be held in late March, a year after the outgoing coalition swept to power, Mr. Berlusconi has

told the president. "This country must return to the ballot boxes because voters have been betrayed." said Mr. Tajani, adding, in a barely disguised swipe against Mr. Scalfaro, that any other solution would only be a "Byzantine palace man-

"Just because a fragile arithmetical majority opposes elections does not mean that a government able to govern will come about, especially since such a government will not be made up of forces that won the March

27 legislative elections," said Mr. Tajani. Mr. Berlusconi meanwhile took on the opposition Party of the Democratic Left (PDS), accusing the "communists and former communists of seeking power without

a mandate from the people." "All current leaders of the PDS were in perfect harmony with Stalin and Brezhnev. How can their attitude surprise us," the premier said in an interview with the first 1995 issue of the Spanish

daily El Mundo, cited by Italian news agencies.
The PDS along with the Northern League and the Popular Party are opposed to snap elections and say there is a parliamentary majority for a non-partisan govern-

ment of technocrais. Berlusconi opponents say such a government should introduce reforms including a new electoral law that would replace the current one which produces unstable governments. Elections would then

be held at a later date. Mr. Beriusconi's government was the 52nd in nearly 50 years.